THE HINDOO PATRIOT

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THE WEEK.

MONDAY, 28TH FEBRUARY.

THE SHOMEPROKASH has removed to Calcutta and added a page to its bulk, which is devoted to articles and extracts in English. This is a move in the right direction. Our contemporary makes the following announcement of its new form :

"From this week the *Someprokash* will be published in an altered form, and it seems necessary that we should give our reasons for the change. To the intelligent public these reasons must be apparent. None but those, who are connected with the direct management of any vernacular paper can sufficiently realize the extent of injury that the Government has done to the cause of Native opinion by the prohibition of the circulation of translations from the vernacular papers. This action on the part of Government has interfered with the progress of the Varnacular Press. Under every form of discouragement, long neglected and despised by the educated portion of our community, looked upon by Government with suspicion and distrust, the Vernacular Press was slowly rising from the level of gross personalities to an intelligent appreciation of public interests and was silently working out a career and destiny for itself, when this fatal blow again prostrated it to the ground. Thus we are once more shut out from the healthy influence of public opinion and again left to grope in the dark. The greatest ambition which a news-paper can have, is to have a voice in the framing of the public opinion of the country, but government has deprived us of the chance of accomplishing this object of our ambition by raising a barrier between ourselves and our elder brethern of the craft. We have long laboured under this disadvantage and have now resolved to remedy this evil by introducing an English form, which would contain besides, one or two articles, summaries of important and original news, interesting extracts from the native press, together with copious translations from the Vernacular papers. It will be our endeavour in the future numbers of this paper, to remove the partial defects, observable in this week's issue, unavoidable arising from the extreme hurry with which we had to remove our establishment to town.

We wish our contemporary every success. The leading native papers of Bombay are diglots.

THE SAME PAPER has the following remarks on the Calcutta Municipal Bill :

"Granted that the principle of election, when worked, will bring the middle classes to the surface—but then is this partial election, fettered as it is, on every side by Government control, a sufficient temptation to really worthy and able men amongst the middle classes?—men who value their independence more than a name—who prefer peace and solitary study in their own closet to the insults and vexations of such a public life? We think not. If, then, we fail to secure the representation of really competent and able men amongst us, could it be at all reasonably expected, that the municipal administration would be carried on in a manner conducive to the public advantage. If the present complaint is that, the municipal funds are largely applied to the advantage of some privileged classes of the city, is it not only too probable that the same will be done with a weak and imbecile body of representative to oppose and restrain the chairman. Thus it seems the new Municipal Bill framed with the purpose of conciliating all parties, conciliates none, and under the garb of bestowing the franchise upon the people of Calcutta, practically does away with even that remnant of freedom and independence, enjoyed by the existing body. Although we belong to the middle classes and would most gladly hail anything calculated to raise and elevate them, yet we feel constrained to express our doubts and misgivings about the desirability of the measure for the middle classes themselves, and would ask Government to reconsider it or to with-draw it if necessary, and to present it again in a shape more acceptable to really worthy and respectable people."

THE MAHARAJA of Jeypore it is said has among the officers of his Court an "Inspector of Billiards." The *Civil and Military Gazette* says that our Government might take this as a hint, suggestive of how to employ some of the idle Field officers now in India. Not bad.

THE SAME PAPER says that the recent vaunted Dutch victories in Penang are more feats of imagination than of arms. The facts are, that General Pel, the new Commander-in-Chief, advanced beyond his line of outposts and took without opposition one of the Acheenese *Bentings* or forts. Elated with this success the Dutch followed the enemy some four miles into the bush to a small valley. Here they were furiously attacked on both flanks by some 15,000 Acheenese, and driven back with a heavy loss of men and material. It is said that the Dutch soldiers threw away their rifles and ammunition pouches in their flight, and the fort is again in the hands of its rightful owners.

A COLLEGE of Music, intended to eclipse all European institutions of a similar kind, is to be erected in Central Park, New York. A bequest of £1,000,000 has been left for the purpose of building an edifice "that shall be an honour and an ornament to the city." The institution is to be richly self-endowed, so that the ablest masters and composers may be secured, and that poor children with musical genius shall not be debarred by poverty from the best instruction the world can afford.

THE RANGOON GAZETTE gives some interesting particulars regarding the cultivation of rice and its outturn in British Burma :

"Shortly after the opening of the monsoon, when the earth is considered sufficiently soft, ploughing begins. This operation is a very simple affair. The implement which does duty for a plough, is drawn over the field. The wooden ploughshare which is shod with iron, and sometimes not, just breaks up the surface. A portion of the land is then used as a 'nursery, in which the seed, in the proportion of about one basket to an acre, is sown broad-cast. In some few cases the seed is sown broad-cast on the whole of the land, and allowed to come to maturity without further trouble or attention from the cultivator. The yield, when the paddy is allowed to thus struggle into existence, is very small. As a general rule, the young plants are transplanted when about eighteen inches in height. They are easily pulled up from the soft soil or mud, and a bundle of them is thrown across the left arm. They are then planted in rows about one foot apart, and the same distance from each other, in the same row. This is done by the women, and even little boys and girls are employed at the work. Each person has a forked stick with which the plants are taken from the bundle, and roughly stuck into the ground. The men carefully eschew this part of the work. Though quickly performed, the stooping posture necessary to be maintained is rather trying to Jack Burman's back. Until the crop is ripe nothing further is done; no weeding is performed or considered necessary

The crop is then cut and taken a piece of ground which has been prepared for the purpose, near the cultivator's house, and is trodden out by buffaloes. The grain is then stored. Whatever description of rice may be grown, Nga-tsain, Nga-chouk or Meedoung, the process of cultivation is essentially the same.

In the Rangoon and Bassein districts the fields are cultivated for eight or ten years without allowing any rest, and no rotation of crop is ever attempted. In other districts, where the land is not so fertile, it lies fallow once in five or six years, and on the higher lands even every three or four years.

"The average quantity of seed required for an acre is one basket, and is reserved by the cultivator from the previous year's crop. If he is fortunate to possess buffaloes well and good, if not he hires them, generally at the rate of fifty baskets of paddy per pair. One pair of buffaloes will plough his whole land. If he can at all afford it, he will also hire a ploughman, and one or two others to assist in repairing the small bunds between each rich field, and these he has to feed while employed. After the harvest they receive portion of the paddy in lieu of a money payment. In the same way he has to hire, feed and pay for sowing, transplanting, reaping, and again must hire buffaloes to tread out the grain; after these deductions, and setting aside enough to support himself and family, he has still nearly half the yield available for sale.

"The average yield of an acre of ordinarily good land is about forty baskets. Say, he cultivates ten acres, he has something like 200 baskets from the money received for which, he has to meet his land-tax; put this down at Rs. 2 per acre, Rs. 20; Five per cent. on this for local cesses, Re. 1; Capitation tax for himself, if a married man, which he is certain to be, Rs. 2; total Rs. 23 per annum. In nearly every large village there is a man, who though not quite so bad as the Indian Mahajun, is in the habit of lending money. The rate of interest is never less than four or five per cent. per mensem, and a deposit of jewellery is also required, or other tangible security. Loans are made to be repaid when the harvest is sold, and when Jack Burman is supposed to be flush of cash. It may be thought what need has the Burman cultivator to borrow when all his payments, except the Government taxes, are made in kind; but the explanation is found in his improvident habits. No sooner does he find himself in possession of a little spare cash, than he invests in a complete new outfit for himself and family, frequently even down to crockery ware, or it may be that he has lost one of his buffaloes by neglect, and buys another probably to lose it again in the same manner next season. So that in practice, most of the cultivators are in the hands of the money-lender, and are living in the same hand-to-mouth condition as the Bengal riot.

"The ordinary Burman cultivator receives about Rs. 40 per 100 baskets; this gives him Rs. 80 for the 200 baskets he has or sale; deducting taxes he has Rs. 57 or thereabouts to repay fany loan he may have contracted, provide himself and his family with clothing, and a few small luxuries, such as *nappee*, salt, and occasionally a little fish, during the year."

It will be seen from the above that in British Burma the land tax or rent taken by the State amounts to one-fourth the value of the gross produce a proportion, which the zemindars in most districts in Bengal do not get.

TUESDAY, 29TH FEBRUARY.

A COMMITTEE has been formed at Florence for the purpose of celebrating, next May, the centenary of Cristofori, the inventor of the piano. The principal feature of the celebration will be international concerts on a large scale. The Abbe Liszt has promised to play.

DEAN STANLEY, in his sermon on missionary work in Westminster Abbey, is reported to have said:—"There is but one bad religion, that of the man who believes what he does not act out in his life. Better a good Hindoo than a bad Christian. Within the next sixty years we may expect to see rising in India some native form of religion which shall combine all that is good in the ancient systems of the East with Christianity." We doubt whether it will be an assimilation with Christianity.

SIR GEORGE CAMPBELL has contributed an interesting article to the *Fortnightly Review* on the purchase of the Suez Canal entitled "Our dealings in Egypt." Sir George, indicates clearly that he, at least, is not prepared to give in his unquestioning adherence to Mr. Disraeli's Suez Canal policy. "Whether the measure adopted by the Government," says Sir George "be right or wrong, I cannot but think that the tone of undoubting and exulting approval taken by so large a portion of the Press is evidently, and on the face of it, unreasonable." He comes to the conclusion that a financial protectorate exercised over Egypt by England would, in all probability, be "the worst and most dangerous form of protectorate." He suggests the possibility of a time arriving when the "mild Hindoo," having been educated up the height of self-government by England, it will possibly become the duty of that country to abandon India, and to undertake the task of elevating the Negroes in the wilds of Central Africa to the same lofty level! In fact Sir George gravely suggests the idea of a "British-African Empire succeeding the present British-Indian Empire in exactly the same way in which the present British-Indian Empire succeeded the British-American Empire," which a hundred years ago England was forced to abandon!

THE ARTICLE in the last *Quarterly Review* headed "Hatfield House" it is said proceeds from the pen of the wife of the Secretary of State for India. The Marchioness of Salisbury is known to have been (during Mr. Douglas Cook's editorship) a frequent contributor to the *Saturday Review*.

THE LONDON MAGAZINES for the current month have several articles on Indian subjects. In the *Contemporary* Mr. Edward Fry, Q. C., has a long article on the opium traffic—written, from a strong anti-opium traffic point of view. The same Magazine contains an article by Professor Childers on "The whole Duty of the Buddhist Layman," and which consists mainly of a translation of a sermon said to have been preached by the great Buddha himself. The *British Quarterly Review* also publishes an article upon the "Hindoo Women, Real and Ideal," whilst *Fraser* devotes a long article to "The Royal Tiger of Bengal."

EARL GRANVILLE made the following remarks on the Prince of Wales' Indian tour at a meeting at Dover :

"I believe the Duke of Edinburgh will bear me out that the idea of going to India was the Prince of Wales's own idea. He is a great traveller, as certainly all members of the Royal Family are. But this visit was not undertaken simply through any personal interest which he would take in seeing the great dependency in the far East, but rather because he thought he might be of use in assisting those at home and abroad in the onerous and responsible administration of that great dependency. (Cheers.) I believe some of us in Dover had an opportunity of observing how strong the wrench was when the Prince of Wales left this country and all those he loved in it. (Hear, hear.) It has been most satisfactory to see the physical strength and the mental energy with which he has buckled through the work ever since he has been there. (Cheers.) I believe, at least I hope, that Her Majesty's Government will be able to confirm those accounts which we have seen in the public papers, and some of us have received in private letters of the extraordinary success of that great progress. (Cheers.) I believe that the Prince of Wales, by that dignified and easy courteousness which so lightly sits upon him, has pleased to a very extraordinary degree all the Native Princes, and even those in lower ranks in India, (Cheers.) I believe that he himself, with that retentive memory which so distinguishes the Royal Family of this country, will to the day of his death bear in mind that he has been in India, and will take an increased interest in all that belongs to that important and interesting country. I cannot help thinking that it is no trifling advantage that the Prince of Wales should have been brought not only into communication with the natives of the country, but that he has been able, from one end of India to the other, to communicate with those eminent public servants who have done so much for that country. (Cheers.) I cannot doubt that it will be with the greatest enthusiasm that you will receive the Prince of Wales's health. (Cheers.)"

WEDNESDAY, 1ST MARCH.

THE COURT of Queen's Bench, England, has decided that a suit for damages on account of assaults committed by a husband upon his wife cannot be maintained even after a divorce has been obtained.

GREAT honour has been paid in Hungary to the memory of Francis Deak the Patriot, and the Empress personally placed a wreath upon the body, beside which she prayed for some time.

THE REGISTRAR-GENERAL'S Annual Report, recently issued, shows that the registers of deaths in England, and of their causes, indicate a substantial

decrease in the last few years in the number of persons killed by intemperance. In the five years 1850-54 the annual average was 46·4 such deaths per 1,000,000 persons living; in 1855-59 the annual average fell to 40·8; in 1860-64 it was 40·0, and the same in 1865-69; in 1870-73 the annual average has been 31·5 per million living. In the ten years 1864-73 the annual ratio has been as follows—In 1864 no less than 52; in 1865, 50; in 1866, 44; in 1867, the year after a great financial disturbance and distress, 35; in 1868, 36; in 1869, 35; in 1870, 29; in 1871, 32; in 1872, 31; in 1873, 34 per million of the population Nearly all these deaths occur at ages above 25, as is also the case in insanity. It will be observed that these figures show the deaths which are the direct effects of intemperance; no return tells how many persons, having been damaged by hard drinking, succumb to diseases from which otherwise they might have recovered.

THE RUSSIAN REVENUE seems to shew considerable expansion. Taking the figures as summarized in the *Investors' Monthly Manual* for December last, we find that the revenue grew from about £36,000,000 in 1850 to £68,600,000 in 1870, and the expenditure, from £46,000,000 to £69,350,000. The Budget of 1872, we are told, showed a surplus for the first time within the last 40 years. During the same interval the public debt grew from £100,000,000 to £300,000,000, and the debt charge from £4,000,000 to £12,000,000. Since 1870 the figures have been as follows:—

	Income	Expenditure.
1872	£68,109,000 ...	£68,056,000
1874	75,425,000 ...	73,753,000
1875	79,909,000 ...	79,443,000
1876 (estimated)	81,448,000 ...	81,486,000

The debt at the end of last year was £355,000,000, and the charges thereon £15,270,000, or 281 per cent. more than in 1850, the rouble in all cases being taken at 7 to the £1. The expansion of Russian revenue within the last quarter of a century is enormous, *viz.*, fifty millions. It shews an increase of two millions a year.

WE GIVE below the details of income and expenditure of Russia:

	Receipts in 1873.	Estimate for 1876.
Direct taxes	£15,165,000	£18,664000
Indirect taxes	40,300,000	43,000,000
Crown dues	3,095,000	3,065,000
Crown estates (exclusive of railways) ..	3,471,000	4,111,000
Railway receipts	2,540,000	—
Miscellaneous receipts, exclusive of the item Recettes d'Ordre ..	7,115,000	6,551,000
Recettes d'Ordre an item of account difficult to analyze, but which balances a corresponding entry on the other side	3,966,000	3,493,000
Transcaucasian revenue ...	1,256,000	1,015,000
Total of ordinary revenue...	£67,908,000	£79,899,000

	Actual Outlay in 1873.	Estimated Outlay in 1875.
Service of the Public Debt, including railway bonds	...£13,341,000 ...	£15,433,000
Imperial Court ...	354,000 ...	288,000
Church ...	1,356,000 ...	1,398,000
Ministry—Emperor's Household...	1,862,000 ...	1,290,000
Foreign Affairs ...	367,000 ...	418,000
War ...	25,005,000 ...	25,752,000
Marine ...	3,631,000 ...	3,577,000
Finance ...	14,417,000 ...	9,467,000
Crown Estates ...	1,427,000 ...	2,720,000
Interior ...	6,272,000 ...	7,638,000
Public Instruction ...	1,768,000 ...	2,165,000
Roads, Ways, &c. ...	4,144,000 ...	2,431,000
Justice ...	1,593,000 ...	2,049,000
Imperial Control ..	294,000 ...	308,000
Stud ...	97,000 ...	113,000
Judicial expenses in Poland ...	118,000 ...	—
Civil Department of Transcaucasia	925,000 ...	1,004,000
Total of ordinary expenses	£77,021,000 ...	£76,101,000
Arrears on the collection of taxes	— ...	286,000
General expenses (corresponding to the item Recettes d'Ordre, on the other side of the account) ...	— ...	3,493,000
	£77,021,000 ...	£79,880,000
Extraordinary expenses	— ...	1,556,000
	...	£81,436,000

So more than half the revenue of Russia is derived from indirect taxes, a fact which we commend to those Indian financiers, who advocate direct taxation.

THE ST. PETERSBURG journal *Mir* says that the Russian authorities in Turkestan, finding the 40,000 men in the country insufficient to put down the rebellion surging around them, have asked for the immediate despatch to Tashkend of 5,000 men as a reinforcement. According to the latest news, the Khokand Insurgents have been joined by Kashgar soldiers calling themselves deserters from the Army of Yakoob Beg, while the Ameer of Bokhara has proceeded to Sharisabhk, where he is collecting troops. His presence in that quarter has called forth armed rebellion in the neighbouring Russian territory, the Zarafshan district.

THURSDAY, 2ND MARCH.

WE LEARN from official papers placed at our disposal that it is in contemplation to open telegraphic communication between Cuttuck and False Point for the accommodation of the merchants and others carrying on business and residing at False Point. The project originated with Mr. Beames, Collector and Magistrate of Cuttuck who will execute a guarantee for the beneficiaries securing to the Telegraph Department a monthly income not falling short of rupees three hundred. An estimate of the cost of constructing the line has been submitted to Government, and the work will be commenced as soon as the guarantee is obtained.

OUR ASSAM CORRESPONDENT writes to us as follows:

"The people of Assam cannot feel too grateful to the Government of India for appointing Mr. Geddes as their Judicial Commissioner in succession to Colonel Agnew whose retirement from service was announced in the *Patriot* in October last. I have no doubt but that Mr. Geddes will soon secure the good will and affection of every one of us by the conscientious discharge of his new duties.

The other day our Chief Commissioner had to censure the young Zemindar of Bijni for styling himself as Maharaja in a communication addressed to an officer. In a letter the Government of India simply acknowledged "*Sri Sri* Kumadnaraun Bhup as the Raja of Bijni," and no formal notification was ever issued by the Foreign Department conferring on him any title whatever.

The Government appears to make some times concessions to the natives of this country by fits and starts. Sir William Grey appointed Babu Jogodis Nath Rai, Police Superintendent and Babus Gadadhar Khan and Mohendra nath Hazra, Assistant Superintendents, but since then no other native gentleman has been offered similar posts, although several very able Inspectors actually performed duties of Police Superintendents on deputation. Now, the duties of Police Superintendent in the Districts of Debrughur and Goalpara are being performed respectively by Babus Guru Prosad Das and Jadu Nath Benerjee, and I make no doubt to say, to the entire satisfaction of their Deputy Commissioners. Why are they not made Assistant Superintendents? It is not out of place to mention here that both Mr. Good and Mr. Pughe the permanent incumbents, for whom the above named two native officers are acting, were selected from the ranks of the Police Inspectors."

IT APPEARS to be almost certain that the new American cotton crop will pass the limit of 4,000,000 bales.

THE MARQUIS of Salisbury has declined to accede to the petition of the Bombay Chamber of Commerce asking for the repeal of the Cotton Frauds Act. His Lordship however considers that the Act is very faulty, and he has therefore directed that it should be considerably and immediately amended.

THE FINAL REPORT of the Committee of Pardons gives some statistics of the Communist trials in France. It seems that the Paris courts-martial and assizes convicted 9,596 persons implicated in the rising of 1871. 110 were sentenced to death, 1,197 to transportation, within a fortress, 3,446 to transportation, 1,321 to detention, 333 to banishment, 94 to hard labor for life, 179 ditto for a term, 70 to seclusion, 2,670 to imprisonment, 59 to imprisonment in a house of correction, and 117 to police supervision. 6,501 of the convicts, 98 of whom were women, petitioned for pardon personally or by relatives and friends.

THE PIONEER hints that the once generally received accounts of the prosperity of the Durbungah Raj have been proved delusive, and that "the post may, after all, fall to a man of more special experience than perhaps Major Money is thought to possess. We have heard that the revenue of Durbungah is upwards of twenty lakhs in arrears; that the ryots are rack-rented; that Messrs. Geddes and Macdonald attribute the recurrence of scarcity in the State far less to external causes than to the impoverished condition of the inhabitants. In evidence of their pauperization, it is stated that about 5,000 families have lately fled from Madhobunnee across the frontier into Nepal." But where is the large balance of about 80 lakhs, we believe, in the Durbhanga Treasury gone to?

THE MADRAS STANDARD learns from Musalipatam that a poor ryot, while ploughing, turned up some gold bricks, small pieces of which he was bartering to a bazar man. This was brought to the notice of the Collector who happened to be on his circuit in the above-mentioned talook, and he ordered search to be made in the ryot's house. Nine gold bricks were found valued at Rs. 7,000 each, and are now safely lodged in the treasury of the Collector of Musalipatam. Is the poor man to get nothing for his good luck in finding out the bricks?

FRIDAY, 4TH MARCH.

A MOST destructive fire occurred at New York on the night of the 8th ultimo by which 30 houses were burnt down and property to the value of three millions of dollars destroyed.

SIR SALAR JUNG it is stated proceeds to England. What is his object? Perhaps the Berar question.

THE FOLLOWING is going the round of the papers:

"Travancore is suffering terribly for want of rain. The tanks are drying up; plantations are suffering; the land is looking burnt up and brown, and a famine is anticipated should a few timely showers not stave it off. The public gardens at Travendrum have suffered severely from the long continued drought, and are denuded of the flowers which usually add so much to their beauty. The town, too, is very unhealthy in consequence of the want of rain. Cholera is making fearful ravages at several places in Travancore. The Deputy Surgeon General from Trichinopoly who has been making his annual tour through Travancore, lately visited Alwaye, but owing to the unhealthiness of the place, the visitors who usually resort there at this season, are conspicuous by their absence.

THE PIONEER hears that Lord Carnarvon was offered the Viceroyalty before Lord Lytton, and only refused it on account of the risk to which he conceived that the health of his children might be exposed if he brought them to this country.

APROPOS of Counsel being heard by the Bengal Legislative Council the *Pioneer's* Calcutta Correspondent says:

"It is a curious fact that so long ago as 1863, the question whether counsel should be permitted to appear before the local legislative assembly, was discussed and obtained an affirmative vote. In the Legislative proceedings of that year, I find the following rule moved by Baboo Prosono Comar Tagore: "If a Bill be pending peculiarly affecting private interests, and any person whose interests are so affected apply by petition to be heard by himself or his counsel upon the subject of the Bill an order may be made upon the motion of a member allowing the petitioner to be so heard rather before the Select Committee on the Bill, or before the whole Council, provided the petition be received by the Secretary before the report of the Select Committee on the Bill is sent to him. In no other case or manner shall any stranger be heard by himself or his counsel." There was a division on this motion, which was carried by a majority of four. The dissentients being Mr. Ashley Eden, the Advocate-General, and the President. This rule was, however, vetoed, if that be the right expression, by the Government of India, Mr. H. S. Maine, at that time the Legal Member of Council, made the matter the subject of a short memorandum, a short quotation from which may not be inappropriately introduced: "I cannot help suspecting that it (the new rule) was entered by surprise and without due reflection. It does not seem to have struck the Council that, while these rules furnish ample security against irregularity and disorder on their own part, there is nothing to be found in the rules which can be used to check the license of counsel who may be addressing them. The hearing may be one in full Council, with reporters present and I do not see what is to prevent any conceivable subject from being dragged in on the score of private interests being somehow implicated with it. The House of Commons has, it is true, special rules for controlling counsel, but the House of Commons has always in reserve the power of sending an offender to Newgate. The Bengal Council could, I imagine, refuse to hear any longer an advocate who misconducted himself; but if the topic were exciting, this would probably not be done, if it were done, without a protest from a minority, and would result, at all events, in much public scandal. I do not see why the power of appearing by counsel should not at least be confined to appearance before a Select Committee (which, except on extraordinary occasions, is the practice at home), and there should be, I think, a rule placing advocates under the control of the chairman." I conclude it is in accordance with Mr. Maine's view that the Lieutenant Governor has permitted the Justices to be represented by counsel on this occasion.

THE REFORMATORY SCHOOLS BILL has been passed by the Governor General's Council. Only *convicted* offenders below the age of 16 are liable to be sent to a reformatory. Native public opinion has been listened to on the subject.

IT IS proposed to hold an exhibition at Rajkote of all the natural, industrial and agricultural products of the whole province of Kattywar.

THE PIONEER makes the following remarks on the Calcutta Municipal Bill:

"It is something gained that Sir Richard Temple has consented to refer to a Select Committee the stultifying clauses of a Municipal Bill which was to have been passed last Saturday in defiance of the universal opinion of Calcutta. When in this case he hesitates, the Lieutenant-Governor is perhaps lost. At all events, it must have been pleasant to hear him confess that, after having turned over the matter again in his mind, and pondered the arguments of the memorialists and deputations, he could not help feeling that the obnoxious clauses "admitted of considerable improvement." Only His Honor must not be hurried. The humiliation of demolishing the said clauses at a single blow will be considerably lessened if he does it bit by bit, and after a good deal of circumlocutory official routine. Besides, even when—if ever—they receive their *coup de grace*, His Honor may comfort himself with his old assurance, repeated at last Saturday's meeting of the local Council, that the selections would seldom or never have to be put in force. On the other hand, the memorialists might have retorted that the idea of their harmlessness was scarcely reconcilable with His Honor's earlier resolution to maintain them. But the obnoxious sections are assailable on other grounds than their inconsistency with the right of a freely elected corporation. As the Hon'ble Baboo Kristo Das Pal observed, the local Government already possesses abundant securities for the repayment of its loans to the municipality, without assuming the right to interfere whenever it likes with the financial operations of the proposed representative body. But what if it should turn out that it was the local Government itself which showed a tendency to play ducks and drakes with its own money? "For the last two years he (the abovenamed member) believed the Government had not drawn a single pice for the sinking fund and the interest; and the Justices had to pay up for the two years together, because the Government was not sufficiently mindful of its own interests: so that the Justices took more care of the Government than the Government itself." Again, the Government could not interfere to any good purpose with the water, drainage, and other sanitary works in progress, for the simple reason that the general principles on which they are to

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be constructed have been already settled, and that the Justices have merely to look after the details of their execution. If the elected corporation cannot be trusted with that species of work, then Calcutta is not ripe for the elective experiment. Finally, the clauses authorizing Government interference are not more irreconcilable with the professed object of the Bill, than those which provide for the appointment and removal of the chairman. Under a really elective system, the town representatives ought to have the right of choosing and replacing their Chairman; whereas, according to Sir Richard Temple's plan, that functionary will be the nominee of Government, and the Lieutenant-Governor may negative the petition of the corporation for removing him from his post.

SATURDAY, 4TH MARCH.

THE FRIEND OF INDIA makes the following remarks on the new Ordinance for the prohibition of objectionable plays:

"How will this very comprehensively worded Ordinance affect English theatres? "Scandalous," "defamatory," and "otherwise prejudicial to the public interest" are wide phrases, susceptible of a very elastic interpretation, and the offences which they are supposed to describe are to be examined into and punished, at the instance of a government official, by Magistrates whom government can appoint or remove at pleasure. There seems to be an element of danger here, for despotic governments are thin-skinned, and it must not be forgotten that we all, Europeans as well as natives, live under one. It would be as well, therefore, that the wording of the Ordinance, which has evidently been very hastily drawn up with a single view to the immediate suppression of a particular public scandal, should be rendered more precise before it is converted into a substantive law."

The Ordinance also makes no distinction between public and private theatres.

WE TAKE from the morning papers the following telegrams of the week:

London, 25th February.—After a debate lasting over two days, the Commons have negatived, by 293 votes against 248, the motion brought forward by Mr. Whitbread censuring the circular issued by the Admiralty to commanders of ships respecting the treatment of fugitive slaves. An amendment of Mr. Fawcett to suspend the second circular, and Lord Clarendon's India Station Order of 1871, was also negatived by 245 against 223 votes.

26th.—In the Commons last night, Mr. Holms brought forward his motion regarding the condition of the army, which led to a discursive debate. Mr. Gathorne Hardy refuted Mr. Holms' statements; and, replying to Sir George Campbell, said that no hope or chance existed of detaining English soldiers in India, so long as they would enter the reserve on their return to England. General Schencks' resignation is cancelled, and he remains American Minister in London. The Hon'ble Mr. Layard, Government Agent for the Central Provinces of Ceylon, the oldest member of the Ceylon Civil Service, is made a Knight Commander of Saint Michael and Saint George.

28th.—Lord Lytton will leave London on the 1st of March. He will remain for a few days in Paris, and embark at Naples. Replying to a deputation of the Manchester Chamber of Commerce, Lord Lytton stated that he coincided with the views of the Marquis of Salisbury, as expressed to a deputation on the 24th ultimo. Lord Lytton pointed out how great was the financial difficulty connected with the removal of the import duties on cotton goods in India.

29th.—There was a debate in the Houses of Lords last night on the hostilities in Perak, in which Lord Stanley censured our recent operations there, and the cruelties practised against the Malays. He deprecated any interference in the affairs of the Straits. Lord Carnarvon defended the course pursued, and refuted the charges of cruelty. A motion for the production of the papers was negatived. In the House of Commons there was a debate on the loss of Her Majesty's Ship *Vanguard*. Mr. Goschen censured the conduct of the Government. Mr. Ward Hunt defended it, and assumed the entire responsibility of not calling a court martial on Admiral Tarleton. A motion for the production of the papers was agreed to. Replying to a question, the Honorable Mr. Bourke said that the statement was confirmed that the Russian General Fadeef had gone to Egypt for the purpose, it was supposed, of re-organizing the Egyptian Army.

Madrid, 26th February.—The Carlists, numbering about one thousand, are submitting to King Alfonso. This protracted struggle is now considered virtually at an end.

Paris, 24th February.—The resignation of M. Buffet having been accepted, he will be succeeded in the Ministry by M. Dufaure, the Minister of Justices. In other respects the Cabinet remains unchanged.

1st March.—Don Carlos, having been forbidden to remain in the south of France, is coming to England.

Saint Petersburg, 1st March.—The whole of Khokand has been annexed to Russia as a government *ferghan*.

Vienna, 1st March.—The insurgent refugees are being expelled from Austria.

Cairo, 24th February.—Late advices from Massowah state that the Egyptian Army having occupied the province of Hamasin met the forces of King John near Adowa. The Gollas tribes have submitted to the Khedive.

29th.—Baron Lesseps has dismissed Mr. Lange from the service of the Suez Canal Company on account of certain letters that had been written to Earl Granville in 1871 which included papers having reference to the Canal.

Shanghai, 28th February.—Mr. Grosvenor and party arrived safely at Sachan on the 26th ultimo, where they were met by the Yunnah Escort from Burmah.

Hong-Kong, 28th February.—The Native Trading Company, the formation of which has been already announced as a Company of Chinese Merchants, purposing to carry out direct commercial operations with Europe and America, are prepared to send off accredited Agents to commence business immediately. It is rumoured that terms have been agreed upon for the cession of Corea to the Japanese Government. It is also reported here that the Chinese are about to establish a Custom House at Patem, on the island of Macao, in spite of the Portuguese Government, who intend to resist any such establishment being made.

WE ARE sorry to notice the death of the *South India Times*.

THE DEATH-RATE in Calcutta is again rising. The number of deaths during the week ending the 19th February was 260, whereas the same during the week ending on the 26th idem was 306. Deaths from cholera were 83 and from fever 87.

A SERIOUS disturbance between the men of the 21st Panjab Infantry and the Police took place at Rawal Pindi; nearly 100 sepoys are in custody.

THE BANK OF BENGAL rates were raised two per cent. all round at the last meeting of the Directors. The rates of advance on Government securities were reduced one per cent.

AT THE opium sale on Thursday last, the average price of Behar opium was Rs. 1,339 per chest, and of Benares Rs. 1,268.

WE HEAR that the actors of the Great National Theatre were arrested by the Police this evening under a warrant from Mr. Dickens, the Police Magistrate of Calcutta, under the Penal Code, for performing an obscene play, not the Gajadananda or Hunumancharita farce.

WE HAVE to acknowledge with thanks the receipt of the under-mentioned publications and periodicals. 1. Review of the accounts of the Trade and Navigation of India for 1874-75 as compared with previous years. By J. E. O'Conor, Assistant Secretary, Department of Revenue, Agriculture and Commerce. 2. Report on Sanitary Measures in India in 1873-74 together with miscellaneous information up to June 1875. Vol VII. 3 Annual Statement of the Trade and Navigation of British India with foreign countries and of the coasting trade between the several Presidencies and Provinces in the year ending 31st March 1875. 4. Accounts relating to trade and navigation of British India for the month of November of 1875, and for the eight months, from 1st April to 30th November 1875, compared with the corresponding periods of the years 1873 and 1874. 5. Annual Report on Emigration to British and Foreign colonies for the year ending March 1875. 6. Selections from the Records of the Government of India, Financial Department. The production of gold and silver, the demand for gold, and the price of silver. 7. Report on the Administration of British Burma during 1874-75. 8. Guilty or Not Guilty, of conduct unbecoming an officer and a gentleman? By T. Henry Kavanagh, V. C. late Deputy Commissioner of Oudh. 9. The Indian Press on the late Raja Kali Krishna Bahadur K. C. S. compiled under the auspices of the late Raja's Memorial Committee. 10. Poverty of India, by Dadhabhoy Naoroji. 11. Mookerjee's Magazine Extraordinary, Calcutta 25th February 1876.

WE ARE SORRY to record the death of Babu Krishna Lal Dutt, Assistant Secretary to the Economic Museum, which melancholy event occured yesterday. He was a distinguished graduate of the Calcutta Medical College, and after doing service in different parts of the country, joined the Economic Museum, where he rendered himself highly useful by his intelligent and steady work.

The Hindoo Patriot.

MONDAY, MARCH 6, 1876.

LORD NORTHBROOK'S RESIGNATION.

NEVER since the celebrated Oudh Despatch of Lord Ellenborough to Lord Canning was such a despatch addressed by the Secretary of State to the Viceroy and Governor General of India as that which, rumour says, Lord Salisbury has written to Lord Northbrook regarding the new Tariff Act. The *Bombay Gazette* publishes the following telegram on the subject:

London, 24th Feb., 1875.—Lord Salisbury closed his tariff correspondence despatch in November last with great severity. He writes—"The urgency of the occasion did not justify the failure to inform me of your intention to legislate or render necessary the sudden conversion of your proposals into law, a proceeding which is little less than a scandal, and should have been avoided, even if you were unable to refer home for instructions for fear of information leaking out."

The telegram goes on:

"Lord Salisbury announces Sir Louis Mallet's mission, and considers that the import duty should have been reduced with a view to its gradual abolition."

No wonder then that Lord Northbrook has resigned. Our impression from the beginning was that his Lordship's resignation was in some way connected with the Tariff question, and we are not surprised to find it confirmed. Lord Northbrook as a man of honor could not certainly be expected to hold office after such an expression of opinion from the Secretary of State, and he has adopted the only alternative left to him—resignation. Of course we are not in a position to judge correctly the character of the despatch until we see it, but we hope the whole correspondence will be published sooner or later. According to the *Bombay Gazette's* telegram the gist of the charge against the Viceroy is that His Excellency passed the Tariff Act without reference to the Secretary of State. We are not in a position to say how far this charge is well founded—whether the Secretary of State was kept wholly uninformed of the matter. For instance was not the Secretary of State aware that the revision of the Tariff question was under the consideration of the Government of India? It was announced in the Budget statement of Sir William Muir that that subject occupied the attention of the Government of India, and this statement must have been in the usual way laid before the Secretary of State. Then the several Chambers of Commerce were in correspondence with the Government of India on the Tariff question, and that correspondence must have been forwarded to the Secretary of State in the usual course. Again, Lord Salisbury, if we mistake not, had himself told one of the Manchester deputations that the subject was under the consideration of the Government of India. Thus we believe it could not be correctly said that the Secretary of State was kept wholly uninformed of the subject. Then if the Government of India did not communicate its proposals to the Secretary of State before embodying them in an Act of the legislature—was it without precedent? Is it usual for the Government of India to submit projects of legislation to the Secretary of State for approval before enactment into law? We submit it is not. The Secretary of State has power under the Indian Councils' Act to veto any measure passed by the Indian legislature; there is nothing in the law requiring the Government of India to take the previous sanction of the Secretary of State to projected legislation. How did the Government of India pass the Tariff Acts of previous years? Did it take the previous sanction of the Secretary of State? We believe not. Why should then Lord Northbrook be blamed for passing the Tariff Act without the previous sanction of the Secretary of State? If the latter did not approve it, he could have vetoed or disallowed it, but he could not consistently complain that he had not been informed of the new law before it had been passed by the legislature. The personal question involved is a small matter compared with the momentous principle involved in it. That principle is this—which is to rule India in India?—the Secretary of State or the Governor-General? The Secretary of State is of course the highest executive authority for all Indian matters. He is the last court of appeal from the decisions of the Government of India. But he is the controlling authority—his function it is to control the Government of India, to exercise a general supervision over Indian administration, and to advise the Queen in all matters in which Her Majesty's behests for the advancement of the welfare of her Indian subjects may not be carried out. But in exercising this control, this power of supervision, this right of advising the Sovereign he must allow due latitude of action to the Governor-General. If he assumes the position of a dictator, then no statesman with any feeling of independence or self-respect would consent to take the most important office in the gift of the British Crown, *viz.*, the Viceroyalty of India. The Governor-General is the immediate ruler of two hundred millions of fellow-creatures. He occupies a position of enormous trust and responsibility. Owing to the circumstances of the country and nature of British rule in India he is virtually the Dictator of the East. Much must necessarily be left to his discretion and authority. Can he uphold his dignity and authority if he be liable to be overruled or overriden at the caprice of the Secretary of State? Her Majesty's Minister should certainly interfere if he should find that the interests of the people of India were being sacrificed by the wayward or immoderate policy of the Governor-General. But in respect of the Tariff question, on which the Secretary of State has been at issue with the Governor-General, can any

well-informed or right-thinking man pretend to say that by pursuing the policy, which Lord Northbrook has done, he has sacrificed the interests of the people of India. On the contrary did not his Lordship say in his memorable speech on the Tariff Bill that the interests of the people of this country demanded his first consideration, and did he not abundantly prove that that motive had been uppermost in his mind? We are sorry that the only weak point in the Tariff Act *viz.*, the imposition of an import duty on long-stapled cotton, led the public at first to shut their eyes to the real and sterling merits of the measure. We regret that on the first outburst of the thing we joined the uninformed public outcry. We are still of opinion that the Government of India committed a mistake by offering this sop to Manchester, but we submit, as we said afterwards, that this little flaw ought not to make us blind to the truly enlightened and liberal commercial policy announced by Lord Northbrook. We are glad to observe that the Indian public opinion on the subject has gradually veered round, and that there is now a general appreciation of the single-minded zeal of his Lordship. We regret that the first outburst of opinion was against the measure. It simply tended to weaken the hands of the Viceroy. But the more the Indian public think over the measure, the more are they now convinced of its merits. And yet strange to say the Secretary of State has thought fit to censure the Viceroy for such a truly statesmanlike measure. To us the spectacle is humiliating and alarming—humiliating because the Secretary of State should have found fault with a measure, the primary object of which is the good of the people of India, and alarming because it seems that the influence of Manchester seems to be predominent at the India Office. India is quite helpless in protecting her own interests. Her children are weak and dumb—they have no party influence or Parliamentary connections, they cannot raise their voice so as to make themselves heard. They form no part of the political machinery of England on the turning of which depends the fate of Government. They cannot in the remotest degree influence the coming-in of a ministry or its stability. In Parliament they are utterly unrepresented, and there is no prospect of their being represented. A few philanthropic friends now and then from pure benevolence espouse their cause, but they are too few in number, and deeply grateful as we feel to them for their generous exertions we cannot at the same time lose sight of the fact that their numerical weakness constitutes the most fatal weakness of our cause. We therefore naturally look up to Her Majesty's Government for the protection of our interests. And that Government is represented in India by the Governor General and in England by the Secretary of State. If then these two highest functionaries should pull against each other in pursuing the common object, the good of the people, what hope have we? We have seen that Lord Northbrook has passed the Tariff measure solely in the interest of India, that his Lordship has not cared for popularity with Manchester or the interests of his own nation, that he has held the scale of justice between England and India in this matter with an even hand, and as the responsible ruler of this country and a thoroughly conscientious statesman he has thrown the weight of his authority on the side of India. But what is the result? The Indian Minister instead of supporting this single-minded and conscientious ruler has actually passed censure upon him. Could, we repeat, there be a sadder spectacle than this? All India stands aghast at the sight. All India feels deeply aggrieved. All India admires the courage and conscientiousness of Lord Northbrook and is lost in surprise and wonder at the attitude of Lord Salisbury. The agitation made in this country anent the import duty on cotton goods has, it appears, for a time arrested the repeal of the duty and the imposition of a new tax upon India to replace the loss of revenue from it, but we fear the effect is only temporary. It is therefore the duty of the people of India to make a loyal and respectful representation to their Sovereign on the subject. We are so strongly impressed with the justice and righteousness of our cause that we cannot believe that if the matter be properly representep to Her Gracious Majesty she will seal with her sanction the deliberate sacrifice of the interests of her subjects in the East.

BOMBAY AND CALCUTTA.

AT the sitting of the Bengal Council held on the 26th ultimo Sir Richard Temple is reported to have said:

"From the remarks which had sometimes fallen from Hon'ble Members within the walls of the Council on this subject, it might be supposed that the controlling clauses of the Bill to which objection had been taken had been invented and prepared for this particular occasion. Would Hon'ble Members be surprised to hear that they had been taken almost verbatim from the Madras and Bombay Acts? It might possibly be said that the circumstances of Madras are different from those of Calcutta, and that the Madras analogy would not apply. But Bombay was quite as large a city as Calcutta its population was as at least as well educated, as much public-sprited, and at least as well fitted for self-government. But yet, the fact was that recently laws had been passed in the local legislature of that Presidency allowing an elective Municipal system with Government control, which was quite as strict if not stricter than that which was proposed in this Bill; and that enactment, having received the assent of the Governor-General and passed into law, was now in full working order in that Presidency."

Possibly Sir Richard is not aware of the history of the Bombay Municipal Act. It was carried in the teeth of the opposition of the community of Bombay, both European and Native. The opposition was headed by Mr. Forbes, an eminent merchant of that city, and a gentleman noted for moderation and benevolence of character. Even now the people of Bombay are sore upon this subject. But let that pass. Is there any just analogy between the Bombay Municipal Act and the Calcutta Municipal Bill? The Bombay Municipal Act provides that the Corporation shall consist of sixty-four members, of whom the Government has taken power to appoint sixteen or one-fourth, but the Calcutta Bill enacts that the Government shall appoint one-third of the total number of members. Of the remaining forty-eight the Bombay Act declares that sixteen shall be elected by the Justices of the Peace, and thirty-two by the rate-payers, but the Calcutta Bill abolishes the Corporation of Justices altogether. The Bombay Act provides that the Municipal Commissioner shall prepare a list of voters, but the Calcutta Bill enjoins that persons qualified to elect and to be elected shall send in applications to the Chairman of the Justices. The Bombay Act directs that at "the first meeting of the members of the Corporation in each year they shall elect a Chairman, who shall hold office for a year and shall be eligible for re-election. The Chairman shall preside over all the meetings of the Corporation, and all questions which may come before any meeting of the Corporation for decision shall be decided by a majority of the members of the Corporation present and voting at such meeting, and in all cases of equality of votes the Chairman shall have a second or casting vote. In case of the absence of the Chairman from any meeting, the members present shall choose one of their member to preside, who shall for that meeting have all the powers of the chairman elected by the Corporation." But the Calcutta Bill provides that the Government shall appoint the Chairman of the Municipal Commissioners, who shall also be the chief executive officer. The Calcutta Bill does not limit the term for which the Chairman of the Commissioners shall be appointed. He may, if the Government so wishes it, be a perpetual incubus upon the Municipality. Much depends upon the attitude, which may be assumed by the Chairman at the meetings of the Corporation. In Bombay the Chairman is an independent gentleman, he has no bias one way or another, and there is therefore room for fair play. But here the Chairman is appointed by Government, and as he is the head of the executive, he is naturally anxious to carry the measures proposed by himself. Then the Bombay Act provides for a Town Council, consisting of twelve members eight of whom are elected by the Corporation, and four nominated by Government, and the Chairman of the Commissioners is the Chairman of the Town Council. The Bombay Act declares that "the entire executive power and responsibility for the purposes of this Act shall be vested in one Commissioner, who shall be appointed by the Government for a term of three years and shall be eligible for re-appointment, provided that he shall always be removable from office by the Government for misconduct, or neglect of, or incapacity to perform his duty, and shall be removed from office by the Government on the votes of not less than forty members of the Corporation present at a Special General Meeting of the Corporation." But under the Calcutta Bill the Chairman shall be appointed by Government without any limit to term of service, and *may* be removed on a vote of two-thirds of the Commissioners present at a special general meeting. Then in Bombay the Municipal Commissioner is not permitted to hold any other office, but in Calcutta the Chairman of the Justices is a pluralist. In Bombay the Municipal Commissioner and Commissioner of Police are distinct officers, but in Calcutta the two offices are united in the person of a single officer. The Bombay Act provides that "no payment out of the Municipal Fund shall be made without the sanction of the Town Council, and such payments shall in all cases be made by cheques to be signed by the Municipal Commissioner and by two members of the Town Council, who shall attend daily for that purpose, at the office of the Town Council, and countersigned by the Secretary to the Town Council." Under the Calcutta Bill the Chairman is alone competent to draw cheques. Under the Bombay Act the Commissioners are empowered to pass the budget, but under the Calcutta Bill the work involving an expenditure of more than Rs. 50,000 shall be included in the Budget or carried out with the sanction of Government. It is true that under the Bombay Municipal Act the Government has power to compel the Municipal Commissioners to execute certain works, and in default to have the same executed by its own officers, and to draw upon the Municipal Fund for necessary expenses. But there is difference between these provisions and similar provisions under the Calcutta Bill—the Bombay Government has no power to cancel or raise the rates or to interfere with the budget, but under the Calcutta Bill the local Government will have full power to do so.

We have given above a fair analysis of the Bombay Act and the Calcutta Bill. It will be seen from the above that the Bombay Corporation has comparatively much greater power in many things than the Calcutta Corporation has under the existing law or would have under the proposed Bill. The most important difference is in the position and power of the Chairman. In Calcutta he is the all-in-all, whereas in Bombay he is a mere executive. In Calcutta he is the head of the executive and the leader of the Corporation, whereas in Bombay he is simply a member of the Corporation. The Chairman of a body is *ipso facto* is its guiding spirit; he leads it, and whatever he says naturally carries great weight. But in Bombay the Municipal Commissioner is the Chairman of neither the Corporation nor the Town Council. Then the Chairman of the Calcutta Corporation draws cheques on his own authority, whereas under the Bombay Act no cheques can be drawn by the Municipal Commissioner, unless signed by two members of the Town Council. Thus the Municipal Commissioner of Bombay has much less power than the Chairman of the Calcutta Justices. Again, the Municipal Commissioner of Bombay has no Police powers, and if the Bombay Municipality gets on smoothly enough without a combination of the functions of the head executive of the municipality and the Commissioner of Police in the same person, we do not see why the same course cannot be followed in Calcutta. Sir Richard Temple laid great stress upon the provisions in the Bombay Act on the subject of Government control. We of course differ from him on this point. We cannot persuade ourselves to think that such control is necessary in the interest of the town. We hold that the Government should have power to control the Commissioners so far as it may be necessary to check extravagance, and this power is vested in Government by the provision which, requires that no work shall be carried out by the Justices or the Commissioners, the cost of which may exceed Rs. 50,000, without the previous sanction of Government. The object of this provision is two-fold. It gives power to Government to control large and expensive schemes, and if it does not approve of the principles of such schemes,

it may disallow them. Then if the Commissioners shew a tendency to extravagance, the Government can check them by withholding sanction. This power is therefore quite sufficient for purposes of Government control. But it is hardly consistent that while Sir Richard should take his stand upon the Bombay Act for Government control, he should lose sight of the other provisions of that Act, which relegate the executive officer to his proper position, and which do not admit of the scandal of that officer riding roughshod over the community with the authority of the Police.

THE EXCHANGE.

WHILST THE important subject of Exchange is now occupying the attention of the public both here and in England, a short history of its operation in this country from the earliest days of British rule may not be devoid of interest to the reader.

During the monopoly of the late East India Company its home requirements did not, according to our information, exceed £5,000,000. This amount was inclusive of the dividend on East Indian stocks, marchandize and stores imported from England on account of the Indian Government, charges for navigation, pensions to retired officers, Home establishment and other items of minor importance. Various staples of high value used to be exported by the Indian Government not only from the Presidencies of Bengal, Madras and Bombay, but also from China, direct to England. These staples were principally cotton-wool, silk, cotton and silk piece-goods, saltpetre, and other useful articles, the produce of India. The then rarest and most profitable commodity, Tea, was carried in considerable bulk from China, also the best raw silk to a moderate extent; and their costs and charges were met from the proceeds of cotton-wool shipped thither from the three Presidencies of India. Every one of the above lucrative investments, which were sold in England at upset values, never failed to place in the hands of the East India Company an immense sum of money, which enabled it not only to meet all manner of calls in England on account of the Indian Government, but also invariably left a large cash balance.

The Company's Indian monopoly ceased in 1813, and the trade was thrown open to the public. But the Company was allowed to retain its monopoly of Tea in China. In 1833 the Company's privilege of trading in India and China was entirely withdrawn by the Charter of that year.

The measure which the Indian Government then adopted to meet its Home demands was to advance money at times to a limited extent upon the hypothecation of goods shipped to England by the Indian merchants and receiving from them Bills of Exchange in favor of the late Court of Directors for the amount of Invoice, less 25 per cent., as a margin left for protecting the Company against losses, at rates of exchange ranging from 1*s.* 10*d.* to 1*s.* 11*d.* fixed by the Government according to the temper of the time. The usance of these bills was ten months from date, which allowed the shippers the advantage of meeting the bills after the realization of their goods in England. But since the extensive failures of 1837 the usance was changed to six months for document Bills. The Court of Directors on the other hand was in the habit of drawing occasionally bills at 60 days' sight upon the Indian Government whenever they found it more beneficial to the interest of the Company to do so. Objections were then raised by the merchants and agents on both sides to this mode of exchange operations on the part of the Company. The practice was discontinued; and the Directors necessarily had recourse to the only alternative left to them, that of drawing upon the Indian Government of the several Presidencies for such sums as they required from time to time.

The usual course taken by the merchants on this side for effecting remittances was to buy bills of exchange drawn under letters of credit. These letters of credit which were for very extensive amounts, were granted to American Supercargoes and agents on this side, and also certain first-class English houses here, by Banking Houses in England of an unexceptionable character and position, such as Messrs. Baring Brothers and Co., and Brown Shipley and Company, not to mention others of acknowledged credit.

Under the influence of these credits our export trade flourished on a very liberal scale. The rates of exchange then ruled highly in favor of the purchaser; so much so that they at times touched 2*s.* 3*d.* the rupee, and generally ranged between 2*s.* 1*d.* and 2*s.* 2*d.* and seldom fell below 2*s.* or 1*s.* 11*d.* the Company's rupee.

The reader will thus see how much the remitter was benefitted by the former rates of exchange; and hence it is clear that in spite of the high rate paid by the exporter he had every prospect of a successful result, and the importer always secured a handsome return. Unfortunately the table is now turned against both. The importer cannot get back his money home, except at an enormous sacrifice, and the exporter is at a stand-still, notwithstanding the most tempting rate of exchange which the market now offers to him. Indeed, there can be no greater proof of the impoverishment of our general trade at this conjuncture. We must patiently wait to see when things will mend and take a turn for the better. It is an admitted fact that the chief cause of the disorganization of the Exchange machinery is the fortnightly bills drawn by the Secretary of State on the Indian Government without intermission, and for enormous sums at a time. How can the disturbance be prevented is the question of the hour. A modification of the currency in the way we have suggested is in our humble opinion one remedy.

THE NEW ORDINANCE.

HIS EXCELLENCY THE VICEROY has issued the following Ordinance:—

AN ORDINANCE.

To empower the Government of Bengal to prohibit certain Dramatic Performances

WHEREAS it is expedient to empower the Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal to prohibit dramatic performances which are scandalous, defamatory, seditious, obscene, or otherwise prejudicial to the public interest: and

Preamble. whereas, pending the consideration and enactment by the Governor-General in Council of a law conferring such power, it is expedient to confer the same by an Ordinance under section twenty-three of the Indian Councils Act:

In exercise of the power vested in him by the said section, His Excellency the Governor General is pleased to make and promulgate the following Ordinance:—

Power to prohibit certain dramatic performances. 1. Whenever the Lieutenant Governor of Bengal is of opinion that any play, pantomime, or other drama performed, or about to be performed is—

(*a*) of a scandalous or defamatory nature, or

(*b*) likely to excite feelings of disaffection to the Government established by law in British India, or

(*c*) likely to deprave and corrupt persons present at such performance,

(*d*) or otherwise prejudicial to the interests of the public,

the said Lieutenant-Governor, or such officer as he may generally or specially empower in this behalf, may by order prohibit such performance.

Power to serve order of prohibition. 2. A copy of any such order may be served on any person about to take part in the performance so prohibited, or on the owner or occupier of any house, room, or place in which such performance is intended to take place, and any person on whom such copy is served, and who does, or willingly permits, any act of disobedience to such order, shall be punishable, on

Penalty for disobeying order. conviction before a Magistrate, with imprisonment for a term which may extend to three months, or with fine, or with both.

Power to notify order. 3. Any such order may be notified by proclamation, and a written or printed notice thereof may be stuck up at any place or places adapted for giving information of the order to the persons intending to take part in the performance so prohibited.

Penalty for disobeying prohibition. 4. Whoever, after the notification of any such order—

(*a*) takes part in the performance prohibited thereby, or in any performance substantially the same as the performance so prohibited, or

(*b*) in any manner assists in conducting any such performance, or

(*c*) is present as a spectator during the whole or any part of any such performance, or

(*d*) being the owner or occupier or having the use of any house, room, or place, opens, keeps, or uses the same for any such performance, or permits the same to be opened, kept, or used for any such performance, shall be punishable, on conviction before a Magistrate, with imprisonment for a term which may extend to three months, or with fine, or with both.

Power to grant warrant to Police to enter and arrest and seize. 5. If any Magistrate has reason to believe that any house, room, or place is used, or is about to be used, for any performance prohibited under this Act, he may, by his warrant, authorize any officer of police to enter, with such assistance as may be requisite, by night or by day, and by force, if necessary, any such house, room, or place, and to take into custody all persons whom he finds therein, and to seize all scenery, dresses, and other articles, found therein, and reasonably suspected to have been used, or to be intended to be used, for the purpose of such performance.

Saving of Penal Code, sections 124A and 294. 6. No conviction under this Act shall bar a prosecution under section 124A or section 294 of the Indian Penal Code.

Definition of "Magistrate" 7. In this Ordinance, the "term Magistrate" includes a Magistrate of Police in Calcutta.

Local extent, commencement, and duration of Ordinance. 8. This Ordinance extends only to the territories under the Government of the Lieutenant Governor of Bengal: it shall come into force at once, and it shall remain in force till the thirty-first day of May 1876.

NORTHBROOK
Viceroy and Governor General
WHITLEY STOKES,
Secretary to the Govt. of India.

We are sorry that any provocation should have been given for this Ordinance. At the same time we take leave to question the necessity of it. Is not the present law strong enough to put down dramatic performances of the nature described in the Ordinance? Take the different classes of works covered by this Ordinance. Firstly, dramas of a scandalous or defamatory nature. If such dramas be published or performed on the stage the law is strong enough to put them down. Any person, who may consider himself scandalized or defamed, can proceed against the author or authors of such scandal or defamation either by a civil suit or criminal action. Secondly, dramas likely to excite feelings of disaffection to the Government established by law in British India. The authors of such dramas can be punished under the Seditious Words Act of Mr. Stephen. Thirdly, dramas or performance thereof likely to deprave and corrupt persons present at such performance. The provisions of the Penal Code regarding obscenity apply to such cases. And lastly, dramas otherwise prejudicial to the interests of the public. This is very vague and indefinite. Are not the public the best judge of what is or is not prejudicial to their interests? If they find that any drama or its performance is prejudicial to their interests they will not surely patronize it. In a matter of this kind the public ought to be left to judge for themselves.

In making these remarks we do not of course mean to defend those low and scurrilous productions, which have justly roused the indignation of Government. But we do regret that the Government should consider it necessary to suspend the ordinary law in order to reach them. The Penal Code is sufficiently comprehensive to include all manner of offences, and as we have pointed out there is not a single class of publications described in the Ordinance which is not covered by the existing law. When such is the case we do not see the necessity of a special Ordinance for the prohibition of objectionable performances. It is said that in India there is no law analagous to the Lord Chamberlain's law in England. But the ordinary law of the country is quite strong in the interest of peace, order, and public morality. If the executive do not enforce it, that cannot be an excuse for the suspension of the ordinary law of the land. Last Saturday's proceedings of the Calcutta Police in the arrest of the actors of the National Theatre show that the existing law is quite strong. We do not for a moment believe that the Government will abuse the authority vested in it by the Ordinance, but we humbly submit that on principle exceptional legislation of this kind by a fiat of the Viceroy is open to serious objection.

ABUSE OF PATRONAGE

THE Government of India has published a Resolution in reply to the charge of the abuse of patronage brought against it by Mr. Lowe in the House of Commons last year in connection with the Civilian Grievances ventilated by him. It is an unusual step, but fully justified by the position of the accuser. The Governor General in Council admits that a serious block has arisen in the promotion of the junior Civil servants in the North-Western Provinces, and remarks: "Those who have paid attention to the matter are agreed that this block has arisen from the excessive number of Civil servants allotted to the North-Western Provinces in certain years prior to 1863. Mr. Lowe has not been content with this explanation, and has endeavoured to show that the block has been caused by the improper distribution of patronage in India since the year 1861." The Resolution of the Government of India gives extracts from Mr. Low's speech, and says: "These extracts are sufficient to show that he does not accuse the Government of India of mere errors of judgment, but of wilful misconduct. In sup-

port of his accusations Mr. Lowe has brought forward certain particular appointments which he considers to have been improper." The Governor General in Council answers Mr. Lowe's charges *seriatim*. His Excellency in Council remarks: "With respect to those passages quoted from Mr. Lowe's speech which must, if any meaning is to be attached to the words used, be held to imply that the Governor General of the day is habitually impelled by pressure from the Home Government to make improper appointments and that patronage in India is made subservient to English party considerations, the Governor General in Council is satisfied that no foundation in fact exists for any such imputations. His Excellency the Viceroy is certain from his personal knowledge of the conduct of three Secretaries of State for India—Lord Halifax, the Duke of Argyll, and Lord Salisbury—whose term of office together extends over a period of 14 years out of the 17 years that have expired since the Government of India was transferred from the East India Company to the Crown, that no such pressure has been exercised by them upon the distribution of patronage in India. In his own case His Excellency desires to say that no appointments whatever have been pressed upon him by the Duke of Argyll or Lord Salisbury, who have filled the office of Secretary of State during the four years that he has been in India; and he has every reason to believe that other Secretaries of State have similarly abstained from exerting any such pressure. The blame then, if any be justly due for the manner in which patronage has been exercised in India, must rest upon the Indian authorities alone, and this is the sense in which the charges advanced by Mr. Lowe will be examined." This is bold and generous, and with the exception of one fact which we will notice at the sequel His Excellency in Council has triumphantly met Mr. Lowe's charges. The Government of India divides the appointments to which Mr. Lowe referred into three classes, *viz.*, *1st.* Appointments made to certain offices under the Imperial Act of 1861 (24 and 25 Vic. C. 54). *2nd.* Appointments made to the Punjab and Oudh Commissions, and to the other Provinces commonly called "Non-Regulation." *3rd.* Certain appointments not included under the two preceding classes. The appointments under the 1st class were of a technical nature and the Government was perfectly justified in making them. With regard the 2nd class of appointments the Government of India thus describes the present condition of things in the Punjab:

"There are 10 Commissioners, of whom 6 are Military Officers and 4 are Civil Servants. All these officers, both Civil and Military, were posted to the province between the years 1846 and 1855, that is to say, before the issue of Lord Dalhousie's Resolution in 1856.

There are 11 Deputy Commissioners, of the 1st class, of whom 8 are Military Officers, 2 are Civil Servants, and 1 is an Uncovenanted Officer. All these Officers were appointed before 1856.

There are 11 Deputy Commissioners of the 2nd class. Of these, 7 are Military Officers, and 4 are Civil Servants. Of the 7 Military Officers, 5 were appointed to the Punjab Commission before the issue of Lord Dalhousie's Resolution of 1856; the other 2 Military Officers and the 4 Civil Servants were appointed in the years 1857-58-59.

There are 10 Deputy Commissioners of the 3rd class. Of these, 2 are Civil Servants appointed after 1856, one is an Uncovenanted Officer, and 7 are Military Officers. Of these, the Uncovenanted Officers and one of the Military Officers, were appointed before the issue of the Resolution of 1856; the remaining 6 Military Officers were appointed in the years 1858-59-60— all were appointed before 1861, up to which date Mr. Lowe has no complaint to make.

In these ranks, therefore, which constitute all the higher grades of the Punjab Commission, no ground exists to support Mr. Lowe's assertion that—

"men of good family and connection have been placed in the Civil Service to the exclusion of those for whom Lord Dalhousie's Resolution declared that the service should be "reserved;"

and Mr. Lowe has made no attempt to support by proofs his further assertion that "over and over again" Civilians found—

"others put over their heads until almost all the best posts "in these Provinces were filled, and the Civilians were kept "in the lowest grades.;

It is almost unnecessary to say that there is no foundation whatever for this assertion.

The position as regards the Oudh Commission has been similarly proved by facts. The Government of India thus concludes its remarks on the 2nd head of the subject:

"Sufficient has been said to show that there is no foundation for Mr. Lowe's charges against the Government of India in regard to the second class of appointments upon which he had commented, *viz.*, those made to the Punjab and Oudh Commissions; and that the assertion attributed to him that promotion in the Non-Regulation Provinces has been "one great job from beginning to end" is grossly incorrect. These appointments are not reserved by law to the Civil Service; the policy of the Government of India has been to preserve, so far as is practicable and just, a due proportion of Civil Servants in all ranks of the Non-Regulation Commissions, and when the facts are fully set forth it will be obvious that neither in their general treatment of the Punjab and Oudh Commissions, nor in the particular instances cited by Mr. Lowe, are the authorities in India open to the grave charges that have been brought against them."

With regard to the 3rd head the Government of India is equally successful. It thus concludes the Resolution:

"The Government of India desire to repeat that, in dealing with the statements attributed to Mr. Lowe in the publication which has been circulated in India, they have abstained together from discussing the present position of the Civil Servants of the North-Western Provinces or elsewhere. They have confined themselves to examining whether there is any foundation for the charges of breach of faith, corruption and favouritism, brought by Mr. Lowe against the authorities in India; and they believe that the facts described in this Resolution will suffice to show that these grave charges are entirely destitute of foundation. It is a matter of great regret to the Governor General in Council that a statesman of Mr. Lowe's distinction and abilities should have been misled into making statements calculated to bring into undeserved discredit the character of Her Majesty's servants who have formerly been and now are employed in the administration of Her Majesty's Indian Territories."

We however take exception to the remarks of the Government of India about the appointments made in the Financial Department. We do not mean the appointment of Accountants General, but allude to "the hard bargains" of the Financial Department. If the Government will give the names of the persons appointed, and faithfully record the influences under which they received the appointments, some mysteries may come to light, which may not bear close examination. More we need not say.

DR. HUNTER ON JOHN WYLLIE.

DR. HUNTER has republished in a volume Mr. John Wyllie's Essays on the External Policy of India contributed to the *Edinburgh Review* and other periodicals. We do not propose to discuss the merits of these essays or the policy enunciated therein. But we feel deeply interested in the introductory memoir given by the editor. Mr. Wyllie was one of the first competition-wallas. He passed in 1855 and came out to India in 1856. He selected Bombay and passed the usual noviciate in that presidency. In 1860 he accepted an appointment in the Oudh Commission, in which he distinguished himself by hard work. In 1862 he was appointed Officiating Under-Secretary in the Foreign Department. He then served for a short time in the Financial Department and in 1863 was transferred as Under-Secretary in the Home Office. In 1866 he again joined the Foreign Department. At this time, we are told, he made his first appearance as a public speaker on the occasion of the Oxford and Cambridge Dinner in Calcutta, at which he was selected to return thanks for the Civil service. The speech was not reported, but we are told that he boldly uttered his dissatisfaction with the present system of competition for Indian appointments, in so far as it tends to shut out candidates from University education. "This dissatisfaction," says Dr. Hunter, "became more deeply rooted in Wyllie's mind as the number of University men year by year diminished in the list of the successful competitors, and received its final expression in a printed letter from him to Sir Charles Trevelyan." His literary abilities soon attracted the notice of Sir John Lawrence, who from this time employed him as the expositor and advocate of his Foreign Policy. Dr. Hunter writes: "Sir John Lawrence was glad to avail himself of the services of one who both by inner knowledge and literary talent was so well qualified to undertake in the press the defence of his foreign policy in Central Asia, which was then the object of much criticism. Accordingly, at the express request of the Viceroy, he commenced his article 'On the Foreign Policy of Sir John Lawrence,' an article destined to become in one sense the turning-point in his carreer. 'It is very pleasant and interesting labour,' he wrote to his aunt, Lady Hutt, on June, 1, 1866, 'but rather exhausting. An article worth reading is not written easily or quickly, and the ordinary work of the office must still be carried on. So here I sit writing, without pause, day after day, from breakfast time till it is too dark to see. I leave myself barely time to dress for the careless round of dinner-parties and balls, which keep one up until two or three in the morning. However, when I do get to bed, I sleep intensely hard, and the climate of the place is delicious." We are told that this article was originally intended for the *Quarterly Review*. The Editor, however, refused it, on the sufficient ground that it was in direct antagonism to an article which had appeared in that *Review* twelve months previously, and it was immediately accepted for the next number of the *Edinburgh* (January 1867). Mr. Wyllie was now thirty-one. and 'The Foreign Policy of Sir John Lawrence may be taken as a fairly-matured expression of his mind. Some years after he wrote his article in *The Fortnightly*, entitled 'Masterly Inactivity,' which is, perhaps, the best known of all his writings. It was signed with his name, and being no longer hampered by official responsibility, he was better able to indulge the natural brilliancy of his style. During the month of December *The Times* newspaper contained one or two letters from him on the affairs of Central Asia, and in *The Daily News* he took part in a controversy on the same subject. The companion article in *The Fortnightly*, called 'Mischievous Activity,' was also written at this time, though not published till March 1870. In the spring of 1868 we find Mr. Wyllie a candidate for Parliamentary election, Dr. Hunter says: "The defeat of Mr. Disraeli's Government upon the Resolution proposed by Mr. Gladstone concerning the Irish Church, had rendered certain a dissolution of Parliament in the coming autumn. Amid the general demand at that time for new men, John Wyllie was persuaded by his uncle, Sir William Hutt, to give up his Indian career and stand for Parliament. He went down to Hereford armed with a few letters of introduction from the chiefs of the Liberal party in London, and was at once accepted, both by the local leaders and at an enthusiastic public meeting. His address attracted attention from the principles which it enunciated, and from the style in which they were expressed. Amongst other supporters, Colonel Allen Johnson, an Indian friend, and Sir Henry James, an old school-fellow, came down to Hereford to help him." The result of the poll was officially declared as follows:

		Votes.
Liberals	Mr. G. Clive	1055
	Mr. J. Wyllie	1015
Conservatives	Sir R. Baggallay	983
	Major Arbuthnot	872

But his Parliamentary career was speedily interrupted by a petition being presented against the return of the two members for Hereford. They were both charged with bribery and treating, and the election of John Wyllie was further alleged to be invalid on the ground that he held a place of profit under the Crown as a member of the Indian Civil Service. Dr. Hunter remarks: "All who knew either of the successful candidates were satisfied from the first of their personal innocence of any malpractices. The allegations of bribery were most satisfactorily refuted, but by a cruel fortune the excessive zeal of an indiscreet supporter had brought them within the 'treating' clauses of the Act. It was proved that a certain merchant of the city had on the polling day given a breakfast to divers electors, and then driven them to the booths to vote for the Liberal candidates. This amounted to treating, and by construction of law it was also held by the learned judge that this merchant must be considered as an agent of both the sitting members. It was in vain urged on behalf of Mr. Wyllie that he had never set eyes on the man, or ever heard his name, until the election was over. It could not be denied that he had been deputed by the recognised Liberal agents to act for them in certain matters connected with the election, and that the Liberal candidates, after their return, had written him a joint letter of thanks for his services. Perhaps neither of these circumstances would by itself have been sufficient, but taken together they formed the basis of the judge's finding that the sitting members had been by their agent guilty of treating, and that their election was therefore null and void." The effect of this decision was to render the unseated members ineligible to stand for Hereford during the term of the existing Par-

liament. Mr. Wyllie did not live long to suffer this discomfiture. He died on the 15th March 1870 in the prime of life—his age being only 35 years. Thus was cut short a life full of promise. The competition men feel justly proud of his memory.

[COMMUNICATED.]

THE RENT QUESTION.

IV.

PRINCIPLES OF ASSSSMENT.—*(Continued.)*

The principles which are observed in this country with respect to assessment of rent upon land may we think be classified in the following way :

1. The *Bhag* or *Buttai* system.
2. The system of *Gula* rents.
3. The Pargana *Nirikh.*
4. *Otbandi and thica* assessment.
5. *Krofa* settlement.

Those who are thoroughly acquainted with these several kinds of assessment will observe in the list given above a logical order which seems to us to indicate also, a chronological one. But let us not anticipate ourselves.

1. *The Bhag system.* This we think is on all-fours with the Metayer system of Europe. The tenant pays a specified proportion of the produce apparently without regard to the cost of cultivation ; and the same rule applies uniformly to all tenants and, so far as we know, in respect of all kinds of land within the circuit. The proportions may be various, in Bengal however we have seen and heard of only one rule *viz.*, that of *adha bhag* or half-share. But it would seem that other rules do or did prevail in Behar and the North-West Provinces e. g. the *now-suttee* or nine-to-seven rule in which the landlord and the tenant get respectively nine and seven parts out of sixteen. We can also refer our readers to a note to Holt Mackenzie's minute dated the 1st July 1819 in which we find a great many rules of division ranging as follows 1-8th ; 1-6th ; 1-5th; 1-4th ; 1-3rd ; 2-5ths ; one-half ; 11-20ths ; 9-16ths ; 3-5ths ; 5-8ths and 2-3rds. These represent the zemindars' share, the remainder of the produce in each case forming the share of the cultivator. (*Vide* Selections from the Revenue records of the North Western Provinces 1818—1820. Calcutta Military Orphan Press. 1866. p. 94.) Some of these rules are said to vary according to the caste of the cultivator.

The *Bhag* system recommends itself by its apparent simplicity and its self-adjusting powers with regard to fluctuations in the value of money. It serves also to divide the risks of season equally between the parties concerned. We have seen it however in some places to work very injuriously to the soil, the cultivator trying to reduce the cost of cultivation to a minimum. It is not impossible however, that in cases of this nature, the neglect of the *bhag* tenant, is owing to a wide difference between the money-rents and the money value of the *Bhag* or produce-rents at any place, the two prevailing side by side in the same locality.

Its great drawback is, that under this system cultivation cannot be extended to lands in which the expenses thereof exceed half the value of the gross produce. We do not however make as great account of this as certain authorities seem to do. The evil lies not so much in the system as in a high rate of rent half the produce. A rent-charge on land must always serve to limit the area of cultivation and to increase that of unculturable waste land to the extent that the amount of rent diminishes the profits of cultivation. However a rent system to work well, ought to be elastic enough to take into account the worst descriptions of land. This cannot be done unless the rents admit of some variation between good soils and bad ; but the *bhag* system *adhi* does not seem to contemplate any such thing.

In practice however the *Bhag* system will not be found to be so convenient as it appears to be at first sight. It involves a great many complications : (1) The cost of cultivation always appears in some shape or other and the landlord has after all to bear a part of it, sometimes as price of stock, at others as a deduction made from the produce for the ploughman's share and in some cases the landlord has to make (*tuccavee*) advances to the cultivator. (2) A method more or less vexatious, has to be fixed upon for dividing the crops ; this may be done by making an estimate of the quantity of produce on the field just before the harvest, or by counting the sheaves or in any other way. (3) Some arrangements have also to be made with respect to the cost of reaping, threshing, and that of carrying the produce to the landlords *gula.* Part at least of these expenses has always to be borne by the landlord ; and he has to pay it in advance *i. e.* before he receives his rent. This naturally becomes another source of inconvenience. (4) Besides the grains, there is the straw in the case of corn and divers other things in the cases of other kinds of produce, which have to be divided between the cultivator and the landlord These things the latter does not like to have in inconveniently large quantities. Because they will neither find a ready market nor keep long enough to be disposed of afterwards ; whereas the ryot may require them for various purposes ; as for instance, straw would be of greater use to him on account of the large number of cattle that he has to keep than it could be to the landlord who is concerned only with the rents. The truth is, the *Bhag* system is evidently a relic of the days of barter when money as a medium of exchange was unknown and more or less unnecessary.

2. The *Gula* system. This perhaps is not so generally known as the *Bhag* system and we are not in a position to say that it does not bear any other names than *Gula.* It signifies a produce rent paid at specified quantities per Biga or any other unit of land-measure, instead of a fixed proportion as under the *Bhag* system. It is a step in advance over the latter being apparently called for, on account of the unsettled nature of the income derived from the *Bhag* system. The arrangement must in consequence be of such a nature that the cultivator should not be a loser although he had to pay the same quantity every year without regarding the quantity actually produced. Like the *Bhag*, the *Gula* system also requires all the ryots to pay at the same uniform rate or rates. It therefore involves the following complications which do not occur in the *Bhag* system (1) a measurement of lands ; (2) a standard pole ; and (3) a specific rule as to the quantity of produce to be given for the unit of land measure.

The rates ought to vary according to the nature of the soil ; our personal experience however does not authorise us to say that a systematic classification of the soils is anywhere made with a view to assess the *Gula* rents. The rates, however which have come to our notice, vary in different parts of the country : *e. g.* we have heard of the following paddy rates under this system in certain parts of the District of 24-Pergunnahs : 4 maunds ; 4 maunds 17 seers ; 5 maunds ; 5 maunds 6½ seers, and 6 maunds. The weights given here represent the nominal equivalents corn measure as variously prevalent in different parts of the country It is also to paddy rates that our experience is limited.

The best illustration of *Gula* system is to be found in the *Ain Akberi.* There the rates are given for various kinds of produce, and for different kinds of land. In place however of an average for good and bad years, each kind of land is divided into three grades, best, middling and worst, and the average produce of these different qualities of land is taken as the standard produce. Finally a rate per Biga is fixed with reference to that standard. But by far the most striking, if not altogether conclusive evidence of the filiation between the *Bhag* and the *Gula* system is furnished by the *Ain Akberi* from the fact that the rates alluded to are there fixed at *one-third* of the average produce of each kind as mentioned above. It would seem also that the revenue could be paid either upon the *Bhag* system at one-third the *actual* produce or according to measurement of land, but either in kind or specie *i.e.* according to the specified quantity of each kind of produce per Biga which would be the *Gula* system or in ready money upon certain principles of valuation whereby the produce-payments could be commuted into money-payments. This brings us to what we have included under the well known name *Pargana Nirikh*, which we will take up in our next.

LATEST NEWS AND NOTES.

WE PUBLISH in another column an advertizement announcing that a public meeting of the residents of Calcutta will be held at the Town Hall on the 18th instant for the purpose of voting a statue to Lord Napier of Magdala. A similar requisition is in circulation for voting a fitting memorial in honor of Lord Northbrook.

WE ARE requested to announce that Babu Brohmo Mohun Mullick, Officiating Inspector of Schools, has subscribed Rs. 200 in aid of Dr. Sircar's Science Association.

WE BEG to draw attention to an advertizement in another column intimating that the annual Convocation of the Calcutta University will be held at the Senate House on the 11th instant. We are glad to learn that this opportunity will be taken to confer an honorary degree upon Dr. Monier Williams, Rev. K. M. Benerjea, and Babu Rajendralala Mitra. By conferring honor upon these gentlemen the University will honor itself.

WE UNDERSTAND that His Honor the Lieutenant Governor has left for Singbhoom, and will be there for about a week. This is one of the few tracts of the country, which His Honor had not visited, and which he is therefore desirous to see with his own eyes. We believe there are some settlement questions and some matters relating to the Abkari law, which demand His Honor's attention. Mr. Robinson, the Commissioner of Chota Nagpore, takes furlough, and Mr. Harrison, Magistrate-Collector of Midnapore, we believe succeeds him. This is a good selection.

HER MAJESTY'S Government has at last recognized the gravity of the Exchange Question. The following telegrams have been received on the subject :

"The question of the great depreciation in the value of silver, is exciting serious attention in Home circles. It is considered probable that either a Select Committee or a Royal Commission will be appointed to enquire into and examine the subject.

In the House of Commons last night, Lord George Hamilton gave notice of a motion to-morrow for the appointment of a Select Committee to enquire into the effect of the fall in silver on exchange on India."

The question is of the highest importance to this country, and we hope that whatever decision may be come to it will be adopted with caution and moderation.

SO CIVILIANS are pressing upon what was hitherto considered the legitimate ground of the Uncovenanted Service. A Civilian is a Police Magistrate of Calcutta, a Civilian is about to be appointed to officiate as Deputy Commissioner of Police, and a Civilian has been appointed to act for Mr. MacQueen as a Judge of the Calcutta Small Cause Court. None had a better claim to the last appointment than Mr. Jones, but the Government has thought proper to overlook it. Was there no native fit to hold the appointment, if it was intended to bring in an outsider ?

WE ARE glad to learn that His Excellency the Viceroy and His Honor the Lieutenant Governor have done justice to Babu Denobundho Sanyal, a victim of Sir George Campbell's eccentries. We commented upon this gentleman's case long ago, and we need not therefore repeat what we then said. It affords us satisfaction to notice that the Government has at last done justice to him, though tardily.

THE PUBLIC have every reason to be satisfied with the proceedings of the Select Committee on the Calcutta Municipal Bill on Saturday last. Four local bodies were represented before the Select Committee, the British Indian Association by Mr. Ingram, the Calcutta Justices by Messrs Branson, Jackson, and Miller, the Trades' Association by Messrs. Jennings and Knight, and the Indian League by Babus Kallymohun Das, Rasbehary Ghose, Jogeshchunder Dutt and Shishircoomar Ghose. Mr. Ingram appeared on behalf of the British Indian Association, and those rate-payers, who attended the public meeting held by it on the 12th instant. He spoke well and ably. He commenced by observing that his clients wanted a free elective system, and not a farce, that the Government control prescribed in the Bill was not consistent with a true representative system, that judging by what the natives had done in the Municipal Corporation of Calcutta it could not be contended that they were not fit for self-government, and that confidence would beget confidence. He then dissected sections 21, 22, and 58, and shewed how they were likely to work under the enormous powers vested in the Chairman and the Government. He pointed out the difference between the Bombay Municipal Act and the Calcutta Bill with regard to the powers of the chief executive officer of the two towns. He remarked that as the sections relating to Government control were worded, they would simply encourage extravagance, for the Government would have power to raise the taxes and not to lower them. Mr. Branson followed him. He too said that the Justices were willing to see the experiment of representative government tried in Calcutta, but it ought to be a reality and not a sham. He contrast-

ed the constitution of the local Governments of Bombay and Calcutta. In Bombay the local Government consisted of the Governor in Council, and thus a collective body would sit in judgment upon the acts of the Corporation, whereas in Bengal the Lieutenant Governor was the sole master, and if he happened to be earwigged by the Chairman of the Commissioners, the practical result would be that the deliberations of a corporate body would be upset by a single man. Mr. Jackson said a few words shewing the absurdity of the control sections. Babu Kally Mohun Das then addressed the Committee on behalf of the Indian League. Nothing could be more fair or manly than his arguments. He frankly said that if the control sections remained as they were no man of honorable feeling, position or independence would accept office under the new Bill. Under no circumstances would he advocate the reservation of the controlling power to Government as proposed in the Bill; he would have the law enforced by the High Court. He was quite at one upon this vital point with the Counsel of the British Indian Association and the Justices. When such was the deliberate opinion of the advocate of the League, it was a pity that there was any division of action at the outset. The representatives of the different public bodies before the Select Committee were unanimous in their opinion that they wanted a free elective system but that that object would not be attained if the Commissioners were to be kept perpetually in the leading strings of Government. The Select Committee heard the Counsel and delegates with the utmost patience and courtesy. On the whole the proceedings of last Saturday were highly satisfactory. A great constitutional advantage was gained by the admission of Counsel, and the Select Committee had before them an expression of public opinion upon the real merits of the Bill in a form which could not be gainsaid. We have no doubt but that it will have due effect upon the Council.

WE HAVE MUCH pleasure in reproducing the following Resolution of the Government of Bengal from the last *Calcutta Gazette*:

"In December last, the Commissioner of the Presidency Division communicated to Government the liberal offer of Rai Dhunput Sing Bahadoor to give an annual sum of Rs. 1,500 for founding a scholarship in the name of His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales, as a memorial of the visit of His Royal Highness to India.

2. It was proposed that a scholarship of the monthly value of Rs. 125 should be held by students for the purpose of prosecuting their studies, and should be made tenable for three years at a time; the conditions and subjects of examination to be settled hereafter.

3. The donor has now expressed a wish that the money should be devoted to the proposed Institution in Calcutta for the encouragement of the study of the practical sciences.

4. The Lieutenant-Governor accepts the offer of the annual subscription of Rs. 1,500, and the Commissioner of the Presidency Division will be requested to convey to Rai Dhunpat Sing Bhadoor the thanks of the Lieutenant-Governor for his liberality."

It is the old story over again. Rai Dhunput Bahadur first proposed to give the annual subscription for the foundation of some scholarship, and then he has transferred it to the support of the proposed institution at Calcutta for the study of the practical sciences. Of course he has placed the subscription in the hands of Government and not of any body else. It is not clear from the Resolution whether a fund will be invested yielding an annual sum of Rs. 1,500, but we dare say that that is the object of the munificent donor.

WE ARE glad to learn that encouraged by the liberal offer of a local habitation by the Lieutenant Governor the Committee of the Science Association are up and doing. They met on the 26th ultimo and passed a resolution acknowledging with gratitude the munificent offer made by His Honor and accepting the terms proposed by him. The Committee at the same time wished to enqire with reference to the question of the term of years, which was left open, as to whether the Association would be allowed to occupy the house without limit as to time provided that they showed a monthly income of Rs. 100 in addition to the yield of Rs. 50,000 invested in Government securities. Accordingly a letter was addressed to His Honor on the subject, and we are exceedingly glad to learn that His Honor has been pleased to intimate that he is willing to make over the building to the Association as long as they obtain a monthly income of Rs. 100 in addition to the interest of Rs. 50,000 invested in the manner aforesaid. We cannot sufficiently admire the liberality evinced by His Honor, and we hope the Committee will now carry out their part with equal promptitude. They have authorized the Secretary to realize the subscriptions, and we would exhort the subscribers to pay in without delay. We take this opportunity once more to appeal to our countrymen to shew their appreciation of the national importance of the project and of the noble sympathy of Government by coming forward liberally in aid of it.

WE HAVE to acknowledge with thanks the receipt of a book entitled the "Indian Press on the late Rajah Kalikrishna Bahadur. K.G.S." It consists of the opinions of the Indian Press on the life, character and literary services of the late Raja, which appeared on the death of that distinguished gentleman. The book is dedicated to Sir Richard Temple in the following terms:

TO
THE HON'BLE SIR RICHARD TEMPLE, K. C. S. I.,
LIEUTENANT-GOVERNOR OF BENGAL,
&c., &c., &c.
This compilation of notices from the Indian papers setting forth the life and career of the late
RAJA KALI KRISHNA BAHADOOR,
The head of the Sobhabazar Raj Family, which being coeval With the British power in India has ever continued Conspicuous for devoted loyalty and Attachment to it.
A MAN
For years a leader of the Hindu Community in Calcutta,
A link between the Rulers and the Ruled,
AND
An example of Indian Culture Added to Western Education and Association.
IS INSCRIBED,
BY THE MEMORIAL COMMITTEE,
As a tribute to the Influence of British Rule in India
AND
As a token of Gratitude for His Honor's deep interest In the cause of Native Improvement and Welfare.

The book is got up in first class style and fit to be placed in a drawing-room as a table ornament. Attached to the book is an excellent lithograph portrait of the Raja. The book has been published under the auspices of the late Raja's Memorial Committee, who have, we understand, raised Rs. 10,500 for a marble statue of the Raja. The Hon'ble A. G. Macpherson has consented to be President of the Committee.

A MOST interesting ceremony was quietly performed on last Saturday in the Calcutta Small Cause Court. The bust of the late Babu Hurro Chunder Ghose, for fifteen years a Judge of that Court, was unveiled by Mr. Justice Macpherson, President of the Memorial Committee. There was a respectable gathering of the subscribers to the fund, and other friends and admirers of the lamented deceased. Among others we saw Mr. Justice Macpherson, all the Judges of the Calcutta Small Cause Court, the pleaders of the Court, Mr. Wilson and several other European gentlemen, Raja Romanath Tagore Bahadoor C. S. I. Raja Komul Krishna Bahadoor, the Hon'ble Raja Narendra Krishna Bahadoor, Babu Degumber Mitter C. S. I., Rev. K. M. Banerjee, Hon'ble Juggodanund Mookerjee, Babu Debendro Mullick, Kumar Poorno Chunder Sing, Kumar Inder Chunder Sing, Babu Dwarkanath Biswas, Babu Bollychand Sing, Moulvi Abdool Luteef Khan Bahadoor, Mr. Manockjee Rustomjee, &c., &c. At 5 P. M., the subscribers assembled at the main entrance of the Court, when Mr. Justice Macpherson, President of the Committee, thus addressed the meeting:

"It is more than 7 years (January 4th 1869) since a meeting of the friends of the late Babu Hurro Chunder Ghose, who had then recently died, it was resolved to invite subscriptions for the purpose of obtaining a portrait.

From various causes, into which it is unnecessary now to enter, the Committee experienced great difficulty in carrying out this Resolution in a satisfactory manner. Eventually at a meeting of subscribers the Resolution was altered by substituting a marble Bust for a portrait.

This marble Bust the work of an Italian Artist Signor Ciro-la the Committee have now procured, and we have met here to day to view it as it stands placed in the position, which it is permanently to occupy. That position is excellent in itself, and is specially appropriate being immediately within the principal entrance of the court in which Hurochunder Ghose most worthily and usefully presided during the later years of his life.

We owe our thanks to the Lieutenant Governor of Bengal, and to the Judges of the Court for having assigned this site to the Bust. And we further have to thank the Judges for the arrangements which they have made for us to-day.

In finally making over on behalf of the Committee this memorial of our late friend, I shall simply say that it is the Bust of one who for 30 years was an ornament of the Native Judicial Service, and who was noted alike for his intelligence and his amiability. A most upright and excellent Judge, he was also highly esteemed and beloved by all who knew him in private. As was stated in the Resolution adopted at our meeting on the 4th January 1869, by his integrity and independence he was instrumental in elevating the character of the Subordinate Judicial Service, and for his many public and private virtues he was justly esteemed by all classes of the community as an honorable man and a worthy and distinguished representative of the class to which he belonged."

The bust is placed in the main entrance of the Court House. It is made of the purest Carrara marble, and executed by a first class Italian artist, Signor Ciro-la, from a full size photograph of the deceased. Mr. Mallitte and Signor Ferritti of this town procured the services of the artist. The Bust, to quote the words of a morning contemporary, represents the Babu in the usual *shamla* turban, with *chapkan*, and a shawl tastefully disposed, leaving the right shoulder uncovered In the front facing of the pedestal below the inscription is a medallion of the family coat-of-arms. The right facing has a figure of Justice with the balance and the sword, and the left facing a bunch of Indian flowers. All these medallions are of Carrara marble, and are in *baso-relievo*. Both the Bust and the pedestal are works of art and do great credit to the artist. Thus it has been placed in monumental marble the likeness of one, who while living commanded the respect and esteem of all who knew him by his sterling qualities and high moral character, and who was justly looked up to by the native community as an ornament of the Indian Judicial Service.

THERE WAS great excitement in the Native Town last week owing to an outrage committed by the Police upon a highly respectable family of Calcutta, the Ghosals of College Square. The facts of the case seem to be these. An old woman is permitted to occupy the ground at the gate-way of the Ghosals' as a temporary stall for the sale of potatoes. The Chowkidar of the beat demanded pice from her, which she would not give, and the Policeman therefore wanted to take her up on a charge of encroaching on the foot-path. A young member of the family, who happened to be on the spot, was appealed to by the old woman, and he remonstrated with the Chowkidar, and as usual the *lalpagriwalla* was insolent. From words they came to blows, and the Policeman struck the Babu with his baton on his ear which bled profusely, and from the effect of which he fell insensible. Some people, probably the inmates of the house, came to his rescue, and there was, it would appear, a scuffle between them and the Chowkidar, who had trespassed upon the house. In the meantime, the Police of the nearest station came in strong numbers, entered the house, arrested every man who was pointed out by the Chowkidar, and those arrested, though belonging to a highly respectable family, were *chalanned* as common felons, and paid the usual attentions from the Police on the way. The ladies of the house cried aloud, and the whole neighbourhood was in great uproar. The prisoners were enlarged on bail, and at the preliminary enquiry by the Deputy Commissioner only three were committed to the Magistrate for trial. Of these one was discharged as it was conclusively proved that he was not present when the row had taken place, that in fact he with his uncle had come down to the spot after the affair had terminated. The other two were convicted, though the evidence was contradictory, on the ground that they had pleaded an *alibi*, while the Magistrate held that the fact of their being arrested was against their assertion; we do not perceive from the Police report that the Magistrate enquired as to whether these two persons had been present at the affray, or had come afterwards. We cannot however form a correct estimate of this part of the evidence unless we see the depositions in full.

But should the matter rest here? The Magistrate condemned the Police for troubling an old woman in a matter in which they had no jurisdiction, but was that their only fault? Their conduct we must say began with a breach of the law and ended with a breach of the law. The Chowkidar broke the law by interfering with the woman, when she was occupying private ground; he broke it when, supposing that the first blow came from the young man from the house, retaliated it as a guardian of the peace so much so that the poor boy bled and fell insensible; he broke it by entering the house; his compeers broke it by arresting persons with-

out enquiry, some of whom were discharged by the Deputy Commissioner, and one of whom by the Magistrate. Now what is the reparation for this gross outrage? Here was a highly respectable family, a member of which was in his time a Government officer of mark and also a Member of the Bengal Legislative Council, and the present head of which was a Justice of the Peace and Honorary Magistrate. In ordinary courtesy the Police should have enquired of him about the matter, but they did nothing of the kind, and strange to say that they arrested in his presence his nephew among others, an estimable young man of education, excellent character and inoffensive disposition, who was as innocent as himself, and who was discharged by the Magistrate, and *challaned* him as a common felon! Will the Commissioner of Police take no notice of the conduct of the Police. Is the mild reproof administered by the Magistrate a sufficient atonement for all that they did? The native public have been shocked by this outrage. There is but one feeling amongst them. They say not without reason that if this scandalous conduct of the Police be overlooked by the responsible authorities, what safety is there for Her Majesty's lieges? The Police as a rule are insolent, but in this case they seem to have out-Heroded Herod. We do hope that the Commissioner of Police, and failing him the Government will take a proper and effective notice of this case. If such an outrage can be committed by the guardians of the peace in the heart of the capital, what wonder that they should play fantastic tricks in the mofussil, which make angels weep!

Correspondence.

THE TEACHING OF PRACTICAL SCIENCE.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE HINDOO PATRIOT.

SIR,—Permit me to say a few words in connection with the remarks that you were pleased to make in your kind notice of the scheme for an Industrial School, which I had the honor to submit to the President of the Indian League.

All our indigenous arts and manufactures, such as those so ably described in your columns by Babu Protab Chundra Ghose, and which it is the object of the Babu's proposal for the establishment of Art Schools to improve, are conducted according to what has been called by Mill the small system of production. They may be carried on by a single artizan or operative, assisted at the most by some members of his family, or a few servants. They require the use of a few simple tools, and not require at all the outlay of any capital worth the name. Excellence in the products of those arts depends almost entirely upon the skill of the workman, which is acquired by a very long course of training as apprentice under the elders of the artist's family, who have followed the same occupation as himself, and which skill is probably the result of an acquired hereditary aptitude generated by the same occupations being followed by the same families from generation to generation.

These arts and manufactures may be divided into two classes; first, those that may almost be classed among the fine arts, such as the art of the jeweller, embroidery, fine work in gold, silver and ivory, production of the finer and richer textile fabrics, the arrangement and management of colors, and so forth. It would not be too much to say that in these arts our countrymen have acquired a celebrity second to no other nation.

Still these higher arts are decaying—great masters of these arts are daily becoming fewer. Those that remain are hardly able to earn a livelihood by following their professions. The art of fabricating the once renowned Dacca Muslin flourished in this place, but there remain now only two or three artists capable of producing anything approaching to that far famed article, who have to spin with their own hands the yarn they use, *no English-spun yarn being* fine enough for their purpose, and who have to watch at their looms for those favorable conditions of the temperature, humidity, and luminousness of the atmosphere, under which alone their delicate operations can be carried on, and which occur only for about an hour or two in the course of the whole day. After these men die, there will be none to produce the celebrated Dacca Muslin for exhibitions and presents, which are the only uses for which the article is now required. And their death will not be long to take place, under the combined influence of their old age and poverty.

The principal cause of the decay of these arts in the fact that the rich aristocratic class and the opulent families, who consumed their products, are fast disappearing in every part of the country except the presidency towns. The rapidity with which this decline is taking place in the mofussil is scarcely perceived in those towns. The rich families that are starting up there, by no means in such numbers as to compensate for the loss in other places, are acquiring tastes that make them no patrons or encouragers of these arts. Again, the exhibition of the productions of those artists in Europe, and extensive collections of samples with elaborate descriptions of the processes of their manufactures, such as that prepared by Mr. Forbes Watson, at the cost of the Indian treasury for circulation among the Chambers of Commerce of English towns, instead of benefitting them by creating a demand for their work, only lead to the manufacture of cheap and flimsy irritations in Europe, which serve only to destroy our indigenous art industries.

Under these circumstances it is not easy to suggest any means by which the decay of this class of our indigenous arts and manufactures can be arrested. The scheme proposed by Babu Protab Chundra Ghose will not do much to help these arts, for so far as the supply of skilled artizans is concerned, no training in schools can supply the place of, or can at all approach in usefulness, the training of young men as apprentices in the professions of the elders in their families. These arts suffer not so much from a want of artists, as from the want of a demand for their productions.

The second class of our indigenous manufactures consists of those that supply the ordinary wants of the population, such as those that produce all kinds of stuffs used in ordinary wearing apparel, brazen household utensils, all kinds of tools and other articles of mechanical use and so forth. These arts and manufactures also are decaying, but not because the demand for their productions has diminished. The cause of their decline is the competition of articles of European manufacture.

Now, European manufacturers possess two most important advantages, which enable them to undersell our producers even after paying the double freight of the raw material taken, in many instances, from this country, and of the finished goods sent back here, as also the profit of the intermediate dealers.

One of these advantages is the extensive application of Science to practical Industry, which enables European producers to adopt processes entirely unknown to our manufacturers, for the conversion of raw natural products to human use, and to use machinery for all important mechanical and other operations, so as to set free direct human exertion to a wonderful extent, and make the productive arts almost entirely independent of the skill and dexterity of artizans.

The second advantage in the adoption of the large system of production, in extensive mills and manufactures, in which the principle of division of labor is carried to the fullest extent, and in which the location of a very large business under the same roof, (where the whole of the native power necessary is supplied by the same Steam Engine) and under the same management and superintendence, reduces the average aggregate cost of turning out each article to a minimum.

Unless we can avail ourselves of these two great advantages, and completely remodel our arts and manufactures on the European plan, there is no hope for the Productive Industry of this country. If the establishment of the schools proposed by Babu Protab Chundra Ghose, helps the introduction of improved European hand-and-machine-tools and other appliances, European methods of work or manufacturing processes, and the gradual substitution of the large system of production for most of our handicrafts, it will be of immense advantage to the country—otherwise no amount, of instruction and training in our indigenous arts and manufactures will be of any use, if they continue to be conducted with the same primitive tools and apparatus, and according to the same system, as before.

Under these circumstances the Indian League has rightly come to the decision that the money at its disposal is to be applied towards helping the introduction of European systems of mechanical engineering and manufactures. This will not only revive the manufacturing industry of the country, by enabling our manufactures to successfully compete with those of Europe but will give an impetus to the development of the immense industrial resources of the country. It would be superfluous to point out of what extreme importance this is, under our present circumstances.

At present the great drawback towards the introduction of European methods of manufacturing, is the necessity of employing European Engineers or Superintendents on high pay, the cost and risk of importing Europe-made machinery, the difficulty of having them repaired when out of order, and the want of a body of mechanical and manufacturing Engineers, who should be attached to the country, and find it to be their best interest to naturalize, as it were European machinery and processes, by adopting them to the circumstances of the country. Hence it is of the first importance now to train up such a body of Engineers, by giving them a thorough instruction in those scientific principles upon which industrial arts are based and training them in the use of European machinery and the practice of European methods of industry.

It is a fortunate circumstance that the people of this country are endowed with a natural mechanical aptitude, and a sharpness of eye and nimbleness of arm together with a steadiness and power of concentration, that are scarcely surpassed in any other country. Hence in the matter of the higher artistic handicrafts, or the mere handiwork of Engineering and manufacturing operations, we can never stand in need of skilled workmen. The training of such skilled artizans will not require the establishment of any schools, for the best place for their training is the workshop or the manufactory.

European Engineering firms and manufacturers in this country mostly employ natives as their *skilled* operatives and workmen, and the degree of skill that these men acquire after a short apprenticeship is really wonderful. At Thomson's, Jessop's, and Burn's workshops you will find only natives working—on one occasion, while possessing about 3 or 4 times, at the Barahanagur Jute Mills, while in full operation. I did not meet any other European, except one busily engaged at his desk. An Engineer in one of Mr. Macallister's Mills once remarked to me, referring to a man at the looms, that man's sharp eyes and quick fingers would be an object of envy to any old and experienced operative in Lancashire. Native artists will be found doing almost all the work, so far as mere work of hand is concerned, in the workshops of Hamilton and Co., Cook and Kelvy, and Lazarus and Co., It is the same in every workshop, manufactory or dockyard in Calcutta and the neighborhood. The Surgical instrument maker of Bhabanipoor, whose instruments used to be preferred by the late Dr. Cutcliffe to those of renowned European artists has been noticed in the Education reports. There is a watchmaker in Amherst Street, having a clock stuck up at the corner of his house, who has imported wheel-cutting and other machines from England, and is up to *anything* in the clock and watch-making (not simply repairing) line.

One would naturally ask why cannot experienced workmen from European workshops and manufactories set up firms of their own, and work independently of European supervision. It is certainly not owing to their want of honesty or indifference to detail, or recklessness as to the equality of their work, as the *Englishman* remarked sometime ago: The fact is that were workmen can never be expected, except in exceptional cases, to rise to the position of Engineers, who alone can superintend and conduct operations upon a large scale. In their practice they become familiar with only particular portions of any branch of study; being devoid of any knowledge of theoretical principles, they necessarily do not know how to proceed in any work, even in their own line, that they have not once actually done with their own hands, under necessary directions; and not belonging to the *kalam pesha* classes of society they have not that strong self-advancing impulse which actuate those classes, and do not generally feel any higher ambition those to attain all possible practical excellence in their own line of business.

Our great want therefore, is one of educated Engineers, who would be able to take charge of mills, manufactories, and workshops, and conduct them with the aid of country workmen and artizans, and thus be the means of introducing European manufactures into the country.

It is very much to the credit of the Indian League that it has hit upon the supply of this most important want for the application of the funds in their hands; and it shows, in a very strong light His Honor the Lieutenant Governor's solicitude for the real welfare of the country, that he has approved of such an object. So long as this great object is kept in view, (the League may or may not adopt the scheme I have submitted in all its details) a most crying want of the country will be satisfied.

The funds likely to be applied to the establishment of the Industrial school are doubtless not so large as every one would wish; and the scheme submitted by me had to be drawn up so as to be within the means available. The object determined upon by the League is so important that it would be a great pity, if it were given up because funds are not sufficient for a college as complete and full in all its details as may be imagined. In such matters, a good respectable beginning is more than half the attainment of complete success, and such a beginning the League will certainly be able to make with the resources it hopes to be able to command.

The *Englishman* remarks that "unless manufacturing processes are carried out in their entirety, and on a respectable scale, the practical value of the experience gained will be very small indeed." Mills and manufactories become very high affairs, because in them, the same processes are repeated a very large number of times. A spinning and weaving mill contains hundreds of looms and thousands of spindle, and so forth. One, or say five, machines of each kind, driven by a shaft from a small engine, will act precisely in the same way as hundreds or thousands driven by a colossal Engine. Hence practical training in the manipulation of different kinds of machines and other appliances, obtained from a small number of such apparatus, or from an establishment exhibiting *all* the different processes, though upon a very *small* scale, would be quite as good as might be desired. The cost of such illustrative machinery and other apparatus, would be very small indeed, as compared with what may be required in setting of even a small manufactory. Still the amount that the League may devote, at the outset, to the purchase and setting up of such apparatus, will not only enable it to furnish the college with all that may be necessary for illustrating all the branches of Industry which may be theoretically taught in the Institution. But a good beginning once made, further development of the plan will only be a question of time.

The promoters of the college cannot certainly expect, as some have supposed, that their Engineers, who will be taught manufacturing processes from illustrative apparatus only, will be able, on leaving college, to arrange the details of any large manufactory to set up, or even to take independent charge of one; any more than a student fresh from the Civil Engineering or the Medical College, or from the Law class, can be expected to design and execute a canal, a railway, or a suspension or a large girder bridge, to take charge of a case of serious and complicated illness, or to conduct a case of any difficulty in the Courts. But the theoretical and practical instruction that the pupils will receive in the proposed college, will enable them to act even from the beginning, as subordinate engineers in manufactories, workshops, dockyards, and on the Railway or in Steamers; and the best among them will certainly be fitted, after a short experience, to have independent charge of any establishment. Those, to whom such employments may not be available, will be able as I said in the scheme, to earn a respectable independent livelihood by following less ambitious callings in small workshops or manufactories of their own.—

The list of arts and manufactures given in the scheme are precisely those, for the productions of which there is an extensive demand in the country, and the productions of which are now imported from foreign countries in immense quantities. I cannot therefore, understand, how the *Englishman* asks, in the remarks you have quoted, whether the projectors of the Institution are sure if there will be any extensive demand for the work turned out by its pupils.—

Yours truly,

DINO NATH SEN.

Dacca, the 20th February 1876.

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS.

MOFUSSIL SUBSCRIPTIONS.	Rs.	As.	
His Highness the Maharaja of Benares.....	13	4	0
The Chuprah Public Library	13	4	0
Baboo Hem Nath Mojoomdar, Seetapore.....	13	4	0
,, Krishna Chunder Banerjee, Roorkee.....	6	0	0
,, Bhobo Nath Mookerjee, Rungole	6	10	0
,, Sreenath Bose, Chuprah.....	6	10	0
,, Mohendro Narain Chuckerbutty, Danton....	15	0	0
,, Mutty Lal Roy, Jehanabad	10	0	0
,, Tarra Kristo Haldar, Benares...	13	4	0
,, Jogendra Nath Roy, Sonamgunge.....	6	10	0
,, Brojo Kant Roy, Dewangunge.....	15	0	0
,, Gopee Mohun Basak, Dacca	13	4	0
,, Huro Lal Banerjea, Khidderpore.....	13	0	0
,, Luchmun Persad, Morar.....	5	0	0
,, Denonath Mojoomdar, Derjeeling	10	0	0

Government Notifications.

Calcutta Gazette.—*March* 1, 1876.

GENERAL.—*The 14th February* 1876.—Lieutenant Leopold James Henry Grey is appointed to be an Assistant Commissioner of the Third Grade, and to act in the Second Grade Assistant Comissioners. Lieutenant Grey will be Employed on the special work for the measurement and settlement of the Barkagurh estate in the district of Lohardugga.

Mr. William Henry Verner, Joint-Magistrate and Deputy Collector, 24-Pergunnahs, is appointed to act temporarily as Cantonment Magistrate of Dum-Dum.

The 23rd February 1876.—Mr. H. C. Richardson, C. S. reported his arrival at Bombay on return from furlough on, the 11th February 1867.

Mr. Arthur Weekes, Joint-Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Hooghly, is appointed to act, until further orders, as Magistrate and Collector of Fureedpore.

Mr. William Henry Verner, C. S., is allowed furlough for a period of eighteen months under Section 10 (*a*) of the Civil Leave Code, together with subsidiary leave for a period not exceeding thirty days, from the date on which he may avail himself of it.

The 24th February 1876.—Mr. W. F. Meres, C. S., reported his departure from India on furlough on the 16th February 1876.

Mr. Andrew William Cochran, Officiating Joint-Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Midnapore, is allowed subsidiary leave for a period not exceeding thirty days from the 13th March 1876, or any subsequent date on which he may avail himself of it preparatory to proceeding on furlough, granted to him under orders of the 17th January 1876.

The 25th February 1876.—Baboo Sheonundan Lall, B. A., is appointed to be a Sub-Deputy Collector of the Second Grade, and is posted to the Gopalgunge division of the Sarun district, with effect from the date on which he joined his appointment.

Mr. J. R. Hallett, C. S., is allowed subsidiary leave for a period not exceeding thirty days on his return from furlough, to enable him to join his appointment.

Mr. John Peter Grant, Judge of Rungpore, is appointed to act as District and Sessions Judge of Mymensingh, during the absence, on leave, of Mr. W. J. Money, C. S., I., or until further orders.

Mr. C. A. Kelly, Judge of the Courts of Small Causes at Bhagulpore and Monghyr, is allowed leave for three months, under Section 21, Chapter VI of the Civil leave Code, with effect from the 2nd March 1876, or any subsequent date on which he may avail himself of it.

Mr. John Revans Hallett, C. S., is appointed to act as Judge of Courts of Small Causes at Bhauglpore and Monghyr during the absence, on leave, of Mr. C. A. Kelly, or until further orders.

Mr. Hallett is vested with the powers of a Sub-Judge under Section 51 of Act XI of 1865 and Section 30 of Act VI of 1871.

The 26th February 1876.—Mr. John Foster Stevens, Officiating Joint-Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Cuttack, is allowed leave for six weeks, under Section 21, Chapter VI of the Civil Leave Code.

Moulvi Mahomed Serajul Huq, Sub-Deputy Collector, employed on settlement work in the Sonthal Pergunnahs, is allowed leave for three months, under Section 3, Supplement F of the Civil Leave Code, with effect from the date on which he availed himself of it.

The 28th February 1876.—Mr. C. P. L. Macaulay, C.S., on special duty, is appointed temporarily to act, until further orders, as a Joint-Magistrate and Deputy Collector of the Second Grade in the 24-Pergunnahs.

Captain William Hopkinson, Cantonment Magistrate, Barrackpore, is allowed subsidiary leave for a period not exceeding thirty days, to enable him to proceed on furlough.

Baboo Dwarka Nath Bose, Officiating Sub-Deputy Collector, Bogra, is appointed to be a Sub-Deputy Collector of the Second Grade, *vice* Baboo Behary Lal Mitter, deceased.

Baboo Iswar Chunder Mozoomder is appointed to act as a Sub-Deputy Collector in Rungpore, during the absence, on duty, of Baboo Tarini Sunker Roy, or until further orders.

Mr. Charles Archibald Samnells, Assistant Magistrate and Collector Bettiah, is appointed to have charge of Begooserai division of the Monghyr district.

Mr. Brojendranath De, Assistant Magistrate and Collector, Shahabad, is allowed leave for ten days to enable him to attend the High Proficiency Examination in Persian and Sanskrit to be held in Calcutta in April next.

Advertisements.

WANTED TO PURCHASE

Ponies and Bullocks for Conservancy Carts. Apply to Mr. Taylor Superintendent South Gowkhana Circular Road.

ROBERT TURNBULL,
Secretary to the Justices.

CALCUTTA UNIVERSITY.

A convocation of the Senate for conferring degrees will be held in the Senate House, College Square, on Saturday, the 11th March, at 4 P. M.

Members of the Senate (in academic costume) are requested to assemble in the Entrance Hall at 3-45 P. M.

Candidates for degrees should be in attendance in academic costume at 3 P. M.

All graduates of the University who present themselves in academic costume will be admitted to the Hall without tickets, and they are invited to attend.

By order of the Vice Chancellor
J. SUTCLIFFE,
Officiating Registrar.

Senate House the 3rd March, 1876.

কলিকাতা বাদ্য যন্ত্রালয়।

নং ৯ চৌরঙ্গী রোড॥

মহামান্য শ্রীল শ্রীযুক্ত ভারতবর্ষীয় রাজাগণ এবং সর্ব্ব সাধারণকে বিজ্ঞাপন করা যাইতেছে যে অতি উৎকৃষ্ট বাদ্য যন্ত্র সকল "কলিকাতা বাদ্য যন্ত্রালয়ে" অতি অল্পমূল্যে বিক্রয় হইতেছে, নিম্নে উক্ত বাদ্য যন্ত্র সকল এবং মূল্য লেখা যাইতেছে॥

ঐকতানিক যন্ত্র।

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বৈটকখানা গৃহের উপযোগি।

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নং ৯ চৌরঙ্গী রোড।

NOTICE.

To

The Honorable J. R. Bullen Smith, C.S.I.,
Sheriff of Calcutta.

Sir,—We the undersigned Residents of Calcutta request that you will be so kind as to call a Public Meeting to be held, on an early date to be fixed by yourself, in the Town Hall, for the purpose of considering a proposal to erect by public subscription, a fitting memorial to His Excellency the Commander-in Chief, Lord Napier of Magdala, G.C.B., G.C.S I., who is about to retire soon.

Your's very truly,

R. Temple.	J. Horn.
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J. H. Mudie.	John Morison.
John M. Lyall.	W. Pirie Duff.
R. A. Lyall.	David Cowie.
Evan A. Jack.	John Cowie.

In oompliance with the Foregoing Requisition, I do hereby convene a Public Meeting of the inhabitants of Calcutta, and elsewhere, to be held in the Town Hall, at 5 o'clock in the afternoon of Thursday, the 16th instant.

J. R. BULLEN SMITH,
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The Transfer Register will remain closed from this date to the day of Meeting.

M. RUSTOMJEE,
Managing Director.

Calcutta, 4th March 1876.

NOTICE is hereby given that a mela will be held at Meherpur commencing from the 25th Falgoon.

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January 1st 1876.

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